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We beg leave to state that we decline to return or to enter into correspondence as to rejected communications: and to this rule we can make no exception. Manuscripts not acknowledged within four weeks are rejected.

entirely new office has been created, carved out of some of the former duties of the Ministry of the Interior, under the name of Ministry of Labour and Hygiene, and M. Viviani, the well-known Socialist, is the first Minister to hold it. It is an indication of M. Clemenceau's plan to square the Socialist and the Socialist-Radical groups.

Both in France and abroad the interesting feature of the Ministry is the appointment of General Picquart to the Ministry of War. General Picquart's connexion with Dreyfus has given occasion to the belief that he is distinguished from most French officers by great friendliness to Jews. General Gallifet says that this is a mistake, and attributes General Picquart's defence of Dreyfus partly to native honesty and partly to native obstinacy in maintaining his own opinions. General Gallifet considers the appointment bizarre, and expects curious results. He describes Picquart as a good soldier but wanting in "diabolical" for command; and declares that he is rather an artist, poet or musician who has by accident become a soldier. Whether he is a good speaker or not General Gallifet does not know; but in any case he imagines M. Clemenceau will dictate the speeches, which may be taken as expressing the general opinion as to M. Clemenceau's relations with the rest of his colleagues.

Parliament re-assembled on Tuesday. Contrary to the expectation of many usually well posted in political matters, the Government, Lord Ripon explained, would not defer Committee stage of the Education Bill in the Lords because of their decision to appeal in the West Riding case. We cannot say we have ever seen any valid reason why they should. The idea that the Court of Appeal's decision rendered the Bill superfluous, from the Government point of view, was a very foolish one. In turning denominational schools into provided schools the Bill does a great deal more than prohibit the payment of denominational teaching out of rates. If, as might be, Cowper-Temple teaching is affected by the Lords' decision, the Government will probably want to

Count Goluchowski's resignation, which has for some time been expected, hardly marks a crisis in Austro-Hungarian affairs or in the relations of the Empire with other States. It perhaps relieves to some extent the strain between Austria and Hungary; the Hungarians at any rate welcome Baron von Achrenthal because he is not Count Goluchowski. The Count was too much suspected of German proclivities to be a facile instrument in dealing with such questions as the extension of the suffrage in Austria, which will not strengthen the German element in Austrian politics, or in dealing with the implacables of Hungary. Baron Achrenthal has always been on good terms with the Czechs, and his wife is an Hungarian. Germany distrusted Count Goluchowski in connexion with the Triple Alliance and is cold at his departure: yet suspects Baron Achrenthal more. Italy alone seems to have a hearty word for Count Goluchowski: but he carried his load of anxieties, heavier than that of any other Foreign Minister, well.

M. Clemenceau is now Minister of the Interior in a Cabinet of which he is the Premier. There are six members of the present Ministry who were in M. Sarrien's; these include M. Clemenceau himself; M. Briand, who continues to be Minister of Public Instruction and Worship, and M. Thomson, the Minister of Marine. The Minister of Finance is now M. Calliau in place of M. Poincaré. M. Pichon has succeeded M. Bourgeois as Foreign Minister, and General Picquart takes the place of M. Etienne. An

add to their Bill. But if it is not going to pass either way?

Meantime a formal but important decision has been given by the Court of Appeal, which will enable the school managers in the West Riding to be represented when the case is heard by the House of Lords. A mandamus was applied for on their behalf to compel the West Riding Council to levy the rate. As the Court has decided that the Council cannot be compelled to do this it was expected, as actually happened, that it would refuse the mandamus. But this being done, the managers of the schools are now able to appeal to the House of Lords as the Government are doing, and they may state their own case independently of the Government; not an undesirable thing to do. Unfortunately no test case has been found which would necessitate the House of Lords deciding whether an educational authority has power to apply rates to pay for denominational instruction, if it wishes to do so.

On Thursday in the Lords there was a general talk about the Bill before going into Committee. The speeches were not very striking. The Archbishop of Canterbury sang piano—it is his way. We must make the best of a bad job. But honest and good workmen often think that if you cannot make a good job of a thing, better leave it alone. However, if the Archbishop sees all he said through, it will do. Equal opportunities for denominational and undenominational teaching everywhere, that is all we want; but it must definitely include provided schools. The Archbishop does not say this in terms. Surely his disclaimer of speaking as a Churchman, and as the guardian of Church interests, was ill-timed. A reputation for broad-mindedness may be very pleasant; but Dr. Davidson must remember that he is not in the House of Lords because he is Randall Davidson; his sole right and title to speak, or be there at all, is that he holds high, the highest, office in the Church of England.

As the Plural Voting Bill is on the face of it a party measure, all the amendments proposed have been voted down ruthlessly by large majorities. The last elections show that the plural voters cannot affect the general results of elections; but Liberals cannot forgive the Universities and the City of London for voting Conservative. Their animus against the Universities is conspicuous in the voting on the amendment to exempt University electors from the operation of the Bill, which was defeated by a majority of 255. They deny that they are trying to destroy indirectly what they have not the courage to attack openly, but if the members of a University can only exercise their votes under the penalty of being disfranchised elsewhere the main reason for University representation goes. A University is something more than the small number of people who occupy the University buildings, and if they only are to be considered the normal electors it will not be long before this is made an excuse for destroying the University representation altogether.

We cannot quite go with Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman when he says that Colonel Saunderson had opponents but never an enemy. We should say that he did arouse enmities, many and sometimes bitter, but they did not last long. It is doubtful whether any Home Ruler harboured hatred against this fierce-speaking, gallant, generous, romantic Irishman. He was a really brilliant figure in party politics; the House loved his speeches, for he was absolute wit, and it is certain that he did not always think and write it all out and learn it by heart and recite it—as apparently all the party leaders do to-day. That frantic scene—which ended in frantic laughter—when Saunderson, to please the Speaker, substituted “excited politician” for “murderous ruffian”—his description of an Irish priest—has often been recalled; yet it was only one of many instances where he flashed out with a piece of pure wit obviously on the spur of the moment. His railing was ready always for triflers as for foemen

worthy of his steel: as an instance of the former, we recall a good-natured snubbing he gave to a pert important little bundle of journalism who came popping up to him trying to get a “par” about a meeting of the Irish Unionists that had just been held. “What!” said the Colonel looking down on the wee man, “haven’t you been under the table then?”

Everybody remembers how Colonel Saunderson was involved in the fight in the House in 1892. He hit out, and struck an innocent spectator, or at least somebody who had not touched nor reproached him. When this was put to him later, he explained that somebody had struck him, and he was resolved to get a blow back somehow. But ordinarily Colonel Saunderson was the coolest hand in a shindy or when a row was brewing. In the Lobby years ago Colonel Saunderson was heckled about his use of the word “murderer”. The Irish M.P. who was aggravated by the word came out of the House, walked straight up to Colonel Saunderson—who was waiting for him—and asked “Do you call me a murderer?” “Certainly not”, was the reply; “why should I? I know nothing about you”. A ring formed at once. The gigantic Inspector Horsley came on the scene, and in a few seconds the Serjeant-at-arms hurried up—for a man of the sword, the picture of vexation. But neither interfered. The two M.P.s stood dangerously close to each other. Their dander was thoroughly up—the first blow seemed all but struck. Colonel Waring and a few others kept the ring.

The word-sparring went on for several minutes. The Nationalist’s desire was to tease Colonel Saunderson into calling him a “murderer” or connecting him with murder. But without withdrawing a word or suggestion he had made in the House—the Colonel coolly declined the invitation. He stood sternly with folded arms—but his eye was watchful as a fencer’s, and his friends felt sure those arms would instantly be in the right position if a blow had been aimed at him. It was an intensely exciting and interesting scene. Hornby, Howard Vincent and Waring and the others stood round as watchful as the principals themselves. Only for a moment did Colonel Saunderson half lose command of himself, and this was when a certain rather fussy and assertive Unionist M.P. tried to interfere with “Saunderson, come away, don’t demean yourself!” “Get out of it”, exclaimed Colonel Waring, angrily, and elbowed the intruding peacemaker aside. Saunderson would not be hustled, would not lose his temper, and so the Nationalist, tired of trying to get called a “murderer”, walked off, and the scene was at an end. It is right to add that Colonel Saunderson’s opponent was genuinely angered by a shaft in the debate which he thought aimed at himself.

Soon after the reassembling of the House the usual Suffragettes began to perform in the Central Hall. They sent in ridiculous messages to the Prime Minister and tried to lure out weak-kneed members of the House, but failing to attract enough public notice by these devices they climbed on to the plinths of the statues and began to make speeches. After much kicking and screaming they were pulled away and turned out of the building. At the Police-court at Rochester Row next morning several of the shrillest raised a greater din than ever, defied Mr. Horace Smith the magistrate, and vowed they would acknowledge the authority of no court in the land. They declined, one and all, to be bound over to keep the peace and instead went to Holloway for two months. May the prison authorities be lenient with them! We suggest they should be supplied with all the fashion and picture papers with which to while away the time.

Who would think that ladies with such tender and charming names could be so unkind? Doria, Theresa, Adela, Irene—Shelley with all his wild ideas would not have wished his Irene to go to such lengths—here are only a few of the names. The worst part of their behaviour was their treatment of the police. Apparently, they suppose that you cannot hurt a policeman’s feelings or his person. A policeman is a thing to be assaulted

and abused. We wish these gentle ladies would take a leaf out of the book of a real martyr of their sex. When Marie Antoinette trod on the foot of the man who was about to take her life, she turned and begged his pardon. It might not be quite so pleasing as it is at present to refuse the franchise to these ladies if they would suffer and be sweet. Ringing other people's bells, saucing the bench, and scratching the police is not the way to gain your political rights.

All good Unionists wish the Primrose League well. But whether Disraeli really cared greatly for the flower that gives the League its name, we took leave some time ago to doubt. That we were right in doubting is now shown by Lady Dorothy Nevill herself. She relates how the Queen sent Disraeli a bouquet of primroses on a certain occasion, and apparently this is the origin of the tradition that the primrose was his pet flower. Who can really doubt that Disraeli would have preferred a pelargonium? In future it is to be hoped that people will spare the primrose in April; it is in danger of extermination in some places through excessive plucking and uprooting. There is no reason why the League and the flower should not both flourish.

The London County Council is so pleased with itself that it wants to double its numbers. The argument is: county councillors are such fine fellows that you cannot have too many of them. This is the Progressive view; the Opposition in the Council is more modest, and the public estimate, we conceive, will be more modest still. We do not believe in this cry about too much work. The County Council is too busy certainly, but busy-bodies never do any work. If the Councillors have too much to do, everybody would be very glad if they did less. Double the number of them and they will be more behindhand than ever; and then they will want to double again: arithmetical progression until all London is in the Council; for they are promoting a Bill to include women as well. The L.C.C. has done a great deal of good, but it is the officers and staff who do it. The Council meddles only to the hindrance of work.

When the Law Courts opened on Wednesday there were several novelties for the crowd of sightseers who seem never to tire of waiting for and watching the procession of the Judges. "Bob Reid" had never before taken part in the procession as Lord Chancellor and Lord Loreburn. Several Lords Justices, including Lord Justice Buckley appointed only a few days since to succeed Sir Robert Romer, appeared for the first time; and Mr. Justice Parker, taken directly from the Junior Bar to succeed Mr. Justice Buckley, had for this reason never even worn the Court dress and full bottom wig of a K.C. Besides Mr. Justice Parker two other judges, Mr. Justice Neville and Mr. Justice Sutton, had not before been in the procession. Both Mr. Justice Sutton and Mr. Justice Parker had the good fortune of being the Attorney-General's "devils", the one in Common Law the other in Chancery, and owe their promotion to that happy chance.

The proceedings in the rabbit-coursing, or, as a sapient reporter called it in fear of the law of libel, the "alleged rabbit-coursing", case show that if this cruel sport is to be stopped it must be by legislation. As an offence it would truly be only "alleged" in most cases, as the legal obstacles in the very old Acts under which prosecutions must be brought would probably prevent convictions in most cases, as they did at Brentford. The English were not squeamish in 1625 when the Acts were passed, but they had apparently never thought of rabbit-coursing as sport. But the Brentford magistrates are to be commended for not reading modern ideas into old statutes: as well as for drawing up an act themselves to make rabbit-coursing illegal. It ought to pass easily unless the Liberals must put down fox-hunting first.

In absence of evidence to the contrary, the decision of the Admiralty to effect a rearrangement of ships in

the Channel, Mediterranean, Atlantic and Reserve Fleets must be assumed to be in accordance with the principle that the peace distribution of the Navy should also be its best strategical distribution for war. Less than twelve months ago the Cawdor Memo. declared that the organisation of Reserve Squadrons at the three Home Ports, manned by nucleus crews, to take the place of the old Fleet Reserve had proved completely successful. But to commission all seagoing ships of the fighting line at the Home ports with nucleus crews to be brought up to full complement at a few hours' notice is essentially different from the constitution of a Home Fleet made up of ships in commission in reserve and placed under its own commander-in-chief. The Admiralty communication is too slight to allow any safe opinion to be expressed upon the merits of this fresh shuffling of units.

It may be that the manoeuvres have disclosed weak points in the existing system of distribution, but no hint is given to turn attention in that direction. At present the Atlantic Fleet is supposed to carry out combined manoeuvres with the Mediterranean Fleet twice a year and with the Channel Fleet once a year and the withdrawal of ships from these fleets to help make up a Home Fleet of ships in commission in reserve, unless dictated by the needs of homogeneity, does not at first sight appear to increase the immediate striking strength of the Navy. Of course strategically it may be necessary to keep more ships in Home waters, especially if clear thinking bids reliance on the Volunteer force to guard against raids, but until Rosyth is properly taken in hand the Home ports are bound to be unduly crowded. The proposals to fix a sliding scale for nucleus crews and lock up officers and men in obsolescent vessels in special reserve are capable of being construed in an elastic and very undesirable sense. It is not yet a constitutional maxim that the Board of Admiralty can do no wrong, and the general hymn of praise is premature.

A letter from the Master of the Temple and Canon Rawnsley draws attention to the laudable project of buying for the nation the "Lady of Shalott" by Holman Hunt, a picture that represents one of his earliest and finest designs, and is the last that will come from his hands. It is to be wished that the national collection should also contain one of the early works, characteristic of the first years of the Pre-Raphaelite movement (the finest of all, the "Hireling Shepherd", is beyond reach in the Manchester Gallery), but we wish all success to the present effort, for the picture not only unites the beginning and end of the painter's career, but will ever be interesting in its commingling of romance and determined realism. The sum required is a large one, but pressure ought to be brought to bear upon the managers of the Chantrey Bequest to make a handsome contribution, and wipe away some small part of the reproach that lies heavy on the history of what they have bought and neglected to buy. We may take this opportunity of urging our readers to visit the exhibition at the Leicester Galleries, which brings together the greater part of Mr. Hunt's life-work. Such an occasion for its study is not likely to be repeated. Modest donors might at the same time add their contributions to the subscription list open at the galleries.

It is unfortunate that whilst so much is heard of quack "Homes for Inebriates", little is known of an institution such as the Normyl Treatment Association which in twelve months has dealt with over 1,600 patients, 92 per cent. of whom have been cured. A peculiar advantage of the Normyl treatment is that it does not involve going into a home or giving up work. The remedy consists of a combination of drugs discovered in Canada which, it is said, in twenty-four days will restore the patient to health and destroy all craving for alcohol. The best proof of its genuineness is the character of the committee, which includes the Metropolitan police magistrate, Mr. Cecil Chapman, the Primate of Ireland, the Bishops of Chichester and Southwark and Canon Scott Holland, with the Rev. Hugh Chapman as hon. sec. and Mr. Owen Seaman, the editor of "Punch", as hon. treasurer. At presen

the prescription is private property. It can only be placed at the command of every sufferer when it is possible to put it on the market free of royalties.

Printing House Square and Port Sunlight have little in common as a rule, but by a coincidence, which is not without its significance, they have struck out an almost identical line in their attempt to capture markets. Messrs. Lever Bros., with Mr. Lever the Radical free-trader M.P. at their head, by taking a leaf out of the American Book of Trusts, have brought themselves into sharp conflict with the Grocers' Federation, which for the purposes of analogy may be taken as the equivalent of the Publishers' Association in the Book war. The Levers have induced a sufficient number of firms to join with them, so that the capital represented amounts to £12,000,000. Their first move was to take an ounce off bars and to sell the fifteen ounces at the price hitherto charged for one pound. But it would not do; the slimness was exposed; and one-pound bars will in future be one-pound bars.

Mr. Lever and his free-trade friends resent the idea that they are anxious to establish anything in the nature of a Trust. When even the American worm is beginning to turn, it is hardly likely that English people will submit to be fleeced at the dictation of amalgamated soap-makers eager only to swell their large profits. For years past it is well understood the Levers have used their supremacy to grind the last fraction out of the retailer and the model village of Port Sunlight has been built up at the expense of the small trader who possibly spends sixteen or eighteen hours per day behind a counter in a slum. Soap has already gone up in price as the result of the "combine", but fortunately some big firms have refused to take their time from Messrs. Lever Bros.

If the publishers are to beat the "Times", they must, as we have pointed out, take the same line with their discount books as they have with their net books. The giant may give signs of toppling, but, so long as he can deal largely in discount books, his friends may prop him up. He has already appealed to these friends to assist him by ordering only certain specified books: he draws up a kind of black list of books which the public will oblige him by not asking for. Ridiculous as it may seem, there are very many people who are ready to take what books he chooses to supply them with. Fancy asking for, say, the Letters of Acton or the Lectures of Acton, and being asked would you mind, instead, having a reprint of "Pickwick"? Yet this is the sort of thing that the "Times" is going in for. Its parallel lists of books to order and books not to order amount to this.

However the publishers are clearly awake to the importance of striking hard at the "Times" in the matter of discount books. Mr. Reginald Smith announced on Wednesday that the discount books published by his firm would only be sold to the "Times" at the ordinary retail price: that is for a 6s. book the "Times" will have to pay 4s. 6d.—the price the public pay for it. The other publishers, it seems, are taking the same line. To hold out against this combination the "Times" will surely have to bring to their aid the resources of Mr. Rockefeller and Mr. Carnegie and the various other greatest millionaires on earth. Business conducted on these lines would be not monopoly but madness.

Thursday was a great day for Mr. Bernard Shaw: at last the "Times" has given him leaded type. He can now hold up his head with Mr. Oscar Browning and Mr. Henniker Heaton in the crowd of RXoooo's. Mr. Heaton, tumbling over himself in anxiety to please, takes the hat round for the "Times". Certainly advertisement at a guinea is better business for him than at £70 for an article "prepared by one of the advertising staff". By the way, we note that a place of honour in the Book Club window is now occupied by "How to Get on the Stage" 6d. and "Gutter Tragedies" 9d. When will "Plays Pleasant &c." appear alongside?

#### THE AUTUMN OPENING.

A LIBERAL Government is the Lords' opportunity. For many years the Peers, largely owing to the dominance of Lord Salisbury, have been too much accustomed to accept without question the acts and views of Conservative Governments to make any great impression on the public while that party is in power. But with the advent of a Radical régime everything changes. Then duty and inclination alike prompt the Lords to assert themselves. From their own point of view, putting aside wider considerations for the moment, they will indeed be mad if they do not come out boldly now and compel the attention of the country. If they hesitate or shrink from drastic action when they have before them a measure like the Government Education Bill, essentially unjust, essentially unequal in its operation, admittedly incomplete, absolutely illogical, grossly offensive to all not on the Government side, and by no means welcome to all who are, least of all to its sponsor the Minister for Education, the House of Lords must necessarily be regarded as a national institution that has survived its usefulness. It is the great mistake of many friendly advisers of the Upper House that they can see danger only on the side of excessive activity. So long as the Lords never thwart the Commons and give no excuse for the charge of obstruction, they think all will be right. It is strange that they cannot see, or at any rate think no one else will see, that if the Lords exist only to assent to what the Commons do, they might as well not exist at all. They are plainly redundant. But if these friends with their precious balms for the Upper House cannot see it, the English people very soon would. It is precisely for this reason that the House of Lords, we believe, is never so insecure in its position as at the end of a Conservative dispensation. For us there is no terror in Radical threats of dire things if the Lords oppose their plans. Let it come to a fair fight, we should be willing to give a very good price for the chances of the Lords against the Radicals. Englishmen like a good fighter: they would prefer the man who fought hard for a wrong opinion to him who did not fight for a right one. If the Lords impress on the nation the idea that they are fighting hard for what they believe to be right, if they show courage and tenacity, they will from the first get much moral sympathy; in a sense they will have the nation's good will, even though it were on the whole opposed to their attitude on the particular question. And if they have the people's moral support, the Lords need not fear their intellectual dissent; for they have only to hold on, and the popular opinion will certainly change.

Mr. Balfour was right when he said at Manchester on Monday that the centre of political interest had shifted to the House of Lords. It certainly has, for the Lords' treatment of the Education Bill will either fasten on the country's schools a State-made religion, wholly satisfying none and extremely repugnant to a vast number, or it will open the way to religious freedom in education which the nation has not yet enjoyed. Incidentally, too, it may settle this Government's fate. We assume the Lords will have the courage of their opinion. In that case, if the Government accept the Lords' amendments, they will be suspect, and probably odious, to their nonconformist supporters; if they reject them, they will lose the Bill and all the nonconformist sound and fury will have been for nothing. Nonconformists, at any rate, having missed the one thing they cared for, are not likely to be very enthusiastic in helping the Government to carry through the other items in their programme. It will give no very lively satisfaction to the small Liberal shopkeeper that he helped to put trade unions above the ordinary law if he fails to obtain his own reward in educational ascendency at the cost of the Church. And the Government must be left no loophole for escape: either a fair comprehensive settlement or no Bill at all. It is open to the Lords to put the whole fortunes of the Bill to the touch on a single issue. Mr. Birrell, who was then Minister for Education, held out in speeches made either immediately before or during the election that the Government educational settlement would give parents of all denominations alike the right to have

their children taught in the religious views of the communion to which they belonged. It was on this representation that the Government obtained their majority, so far as educational issues affected the election. But it turned out to be a misrepresentation. Not, of course, that Mr. Birrell intended to deceive ; he meant to and, we believe, did frame his measure on those lines ; but he was overruled. True, a more heroic or less accommodating mind might have preferred to resign rather than fail to honour his representations ; but that were a counsel of perfection unattainable by the ordinary politician. The Lords at any rate are on unassailable ground, if they amend the Bill so as to make it agree with Mr. Birrell's holding out. They can then say, this is what the people had before them as the ministerial policy when they voted for this Government : therefore we have made the Bill agree with what, as far as it is possible to know, the people were supporting. If you wish to depart from your representations, if you have good reasons for changing your mind, you must go back to the people again. You must take their opinion on your change of front. You must either pass the Bill you led the country to suppose you would pass or you must drop the question altogether. If the Lords take up this position, which they can do on a proviso to the first section, the Government will find it very difficult to resist.

Even the most timid advisers and friends of the Lords can hardly think this course would be too audacious ; for it is merely defending popular right. Mr. Balfour could hardly think so ; though he is greatly inclined to magnify the House of Commons at the cost of the Lords. At Manchester his description of the relative position of the two Houses was not accurate. He was dealing of course in custom and practice, not in law : in law he would have been very wrong indeed. But in practice he was wrong in limiting the power of the Lords all through by the views of the Commons. It is not to the Lower House, but to the country, that the Lords must yield. There was a time when in practice the country and the House of Commons had to be taken as synonymous ; hence the financial disability of the other House. But the country now is able to speak and act for itself and does ; the House of Commons is correspondingly less powerful. As a chamber the House of Commons now practically does nothing. The result of a general election, not the House of Commons, determines from which side a Government shall be chosen. It is no longer true that political power centres in the House of Commons. The two great political forces now are the country and the Government of the day ; and the change which has brought about this result has affected the House of Commons more than the House of Lords. Mr. Balfour does not realise this, and a sentence of his at Manchester explained why. Pointing out that to create an elective second chamber would be to derogate from the supremacy of the other, "I am too much of a man of the House of Commons" he said "to desire it". He would have been speaking accurately had he ended his sentence at "Commons".

Meantime he was certainly caring for the prestige and quality of the Commons, when he was parrying with all his might on Wednesday the backhanded blow the Government's plural voting bill aims at University representation. Nothing could be more unreal than the grounds assigned for this attack on the Universities. We all know that the Government desire a change that will practically throw the return of University members, for Oxford and Cambridge at any rate, into the hands of resident dons, because a majority of these are Liberals ; Liberals at least say they are and have been saying so for twenty years. Nonconformists want it because they are jealous of Oxford and Cambridge, with their aristocratic and ecclesiastical traditions. All may be changed now, but the aroma clings about the two places. The Labour party want it, because they suspect Oxford and Cambridge of being homes of the rich. And no doubt the converse motives are really influencing supporters of University representation much more than the grounds put forward. There is much unreality in politics. But in the battle of arguments in the House there can

be no question as to the marked inferiority of the Liberal case. Even Mr. Asquith could make no better point than that so brilliant an alumnus as he had no University vote because he did not care to pay his M.A. fee. But if the objection is that the fee qualification is too high, then lower it ; give votes to B.A.s. But the Government do not propose that. The Labour members' objection cannot be taken seriously, for it amounts to nothing but that University members have not voted in the way Labour members think they ought to have voted. On the other hand it is a true point that the Universities have let in, and will let in many exceptional men who could not, and would not, get in by the ordinary hurly-burly of election. To pretend that high mental equipment is an electioneering asset is sheer nonsense. When a constituency is on the look-out for a candidate, it thinks first of his purse ; second of his party probity ; third of his capacity to bellow platitudes glibly : of his mental calibre not at all. As democracy spreads, not to be exactly like every other man will be a distinct hindrance in political life.

#### THE TURN OF M. CLEMENCEAU.

THE composition of French Ministries is rarely interesting, even to Frenchmen, but M. Clemenceau has succeeded in making his Cabinet the object of much speculative curiosity. Never since Gambetta brought together his short-lived combination has the world taken stock of the new Ministers with such attention. This is a tribute not to them but to their chief. It is true that they include several men of proved ability, but the Prime Minister is the centre of interest. He has been the hammer of preceding Cabinets ; will he put one together himself that can withstand the shocks which it will certainly sustain ? So far he stands much in the same position as Gambetta, who had overthrown more than one Cabinet before he formed his own, but his exploits in that direction pale before the destructive genius of the new Premier. Before he suffered from the calumnies of Panama M. Clemenceau was for long the recognised leader of the Republican Left. Ferry and Rouvier were among his more distinguished victims. Once before he was asked to form a Ministry and had the good sense to decline. This was when the Wilson scandals had ousted M. Rouvier, but M. Clemenceau told M. Grévy that the crisis was not Ministerial but Presidential. So he may be said to be the author of M. Grévy's fall also. If he was not the inventor of the Bloc he was at all events the inventor of its name when he claimed, in a famous phrase, homogeneity for the principles of the Revolution. "La Révolution est un bloc, dont on ne peut rien détacher rien rejeter". Perhaps the world in general is rather doubtful as to what the principles of the Revolution may be at this time of day, especially since the recent legislative attack on the Church has relegated Liberty to the limbo of Vanity. But the devotion of M. Clemenceau to the Republic is not in doubt, though some French papers already see in the composition of his Cabinet the germs of a dictatorship ; and, as one of them remarks, this may not be such a bad thing for France.

In any case the Clemenceau Cabinet is one of "concentration" (round Clemenceau). All its members are his men. Several of them have served on his newspaper and all are dominated by his personality. The Radical-Socialist group is responsible for six, the Democratic Union for three and Moderate Socialism for two, but they will all pursue the Clemenceau policy. The new head of the Foreign Office M. Pichon has had a distinguished career which may help us to forget the silly explosion of his early youth when he had the grotesque ill manners to refuse a prize from the hands of the Duc d'Aumale, one of the most patriotic Frenchmen that ever lived. His knowledge of the Far East and of Mohammedanism in North Africa should prove of service in the near future. General Picquart's appointment is perhaps the most piquant, but, in making it, it may be doubted if M. Clemenceau has been wisely inspired. It is not likely to calm sentiments

already agitated. General Picquart was too intimately connected with the Affaire to smooth feelings excited by the Delation scandals, but he is an excellent soldier and may prove his tact by remaining that and nothing beyond. The establishment of a Labour Department is a challenge to the socialists ; it is an attempt to pacify Labour without satisfying socialism.

M. Clemenceau's experiment is therefore an interesting one from many points of view. He has taken a line that only a strong man could have taken. Had he been less self-confident he might have decided to take office relying on the Sarrien majority which awaited him all ready made. He has preferred to make his own as he goes along. It appeared at one time that he might have to rely upon the support of M. Jaurès which, after their recent encounter, seemed but a broken reed, but he may hope for help from the Democratic Union of which the three Ministers, MM. Caillaux, Thomson and Barthou are members.

It is not easy to see why the new Ministry should not have the same supporters as the last. If anything, its foreign policy may be a trifle more vigorous. M. Clemenceau is persona ingratissima at Berlin but so far as the struggle with the Church is concerned he is not likely to take a less dishonourable line than his predecessor. It is true that he is well aware of the folly involved in physical struggles to eject worshippers from churches. But that after all does not carry us very far. It cannot solve the difficulties which the policy of recent French Governments has engendered. The new Premier made a speech at the end of last month to which the world was looking for some guidance but the outcome of the whole was in this sentence : "The Church must be contented with the right given by the law common to all ; with the régime of Liberty. We offered you privileges. You haughtily rejected them. Let us say no more about them." This enigmatic utterance is all we have at present to guide us in forming an opinion about the possible policy of M. Clemenceau's Ministry with regard to the dispute as to the churches and their contents arising from the Separation Law. As he has retained the Ministry of the Interior we may conclude that he either has a plan ready or has enough confidence in himself to believe that he can evolve one. But the crisis will shortly become acute and we confess to some curiosity as to what the phrase "*le droit commun*" may cover. It cannot be very long before we have the opportunity of learning.

The radicalism and anti-clericalism of M. Clemenceau is not likely to be exactly synonymous with the vulgar fanaticism of M. Combes. The new Premier is at all events a man of culture and ability but none the less a confirmed enemy of religion. Yet he must surely have enough knowledge of great affairs to be aware of the irreparable damage already wrought in French policy abroad by anti-Christianity at home. In the first place it is clear that Germany now occupies with Pius X. the position held by France in the regard of Leo XIII. Gambetta though in a sense anti-clerical would never have engineered such a situation as this. "*Hoc magno mercentur Atrideæ*" he might have quoted, for it removes the terror that every writer of memoirs has shown to have haunted Bismarck, a combination of Catholic Powers backed by the Pope against the German Empire. In the Near East under the new régime French influence is rapidly deteriorating for the benefit of the same Power and of Italy. The mischief is done and M. Clemenceau is not the man to repair it unless he goes back upon his past, but his mind is acute enough to recognise that the whole anti-clerical movement, if it found its excuse in Dreyfus, was founded on a desire to stave off domestic changes by bringing all advanced politicians together in a common attack upon the one institution which represented the France of the past. The demands of Labour were thus only postponed, they have now to be faced.

Necessarily this involves more taxation which raises the question of the Budget. M. Poincaré will not regret his release from the Ministry of Finance. The question of the national finances and their unstable equilibrium must gravely concern every Frenchman who reflects upon it. The fashion in which the Budget

Committee has dealt with it would be farcical if it were not so serious. They decline altogether to accept M. Poincaré's proposals which seemed reasonable and at all events did not commit the grave offence against the nation of deliberately concealing from it its financial position. The ex-Finance Minister foresaw the necessity of fresh taxation to the amount of four or five millions sterling to meet the Budgets of this year and the next. This the Committee rejects and endeavours to supply the deficiency in the first place by removing certain War Office charges from 1907 to 1906 and by assuming that excessive receipts from the Post Office and Succession Duties due to special causes in 1905 would be repeated in 1907. But in order to square the Budget of the coming year they have thrown a charge of more than five million pounds on this. M. Poincaré proposed to meet this next year by a loan to be paid off at a short term. The Budget Committee passes over in silence the method of meeting expenses that must be met at once in some way or other. They reject the proposal to raise the Succession Duties and substitute several small and vexatious taxes which will cost more to collect than death duties and cannot possibly bring in as much. These pitiful expedients give little hope that the members of the majority possess the necessary courage to face an unpleasant situation. If M. Clemenceau and M. Caillaux have the courage to tell France the truth about her finances, they will be doing better work than spoiling Christians. By a few years' economy readjustment would be easy, but deficits roll up like a snowdrift. It may be well to remember that fraudulent budgets ushered in the Revolution of 1789.

#### GOLUCHOWSKI AND THE MAGYARS.

THAT Count Goluchowski had served his master well is shown by his receiving on his retirement the unprecedented honour of a personal visit ; but twelve years as Foreign Minister of a country in the peculiar position of Austria-Hungary should be enough to satisfy the heartiest appetite for official life. From one point of view therefore Count Goluchowski does not retire too early. Nor can he feel sore with regard to his own conduct of Austrian diplomacy, for no one attributes his departure to any lack of appreciation by his Imperial master. It would indeed be strange ingratitude if appreciation were wanting, for the retiring Minister has steered the Dual Monarchy through currents of conflicting interest which ran strong when the situation at home was often violently strained and one party would have been glad to injure the other by wrecking its foreign policy. In fact it would require a censorious critic indeed to pick many holes in his work, when the various exigencies of the situation are taken into account. The maintenance of the Triple Alliance on one hand and of good relations with Russia on the other are a sufficient title to fame as a statesman. The difficulties with regard to Germany may not have been great but the aspirations of Italy must always give cause for consideration to her ally. It is unnecessary to emphasise the surprises which may arise at any time when two states are bound together by treaty, one of whom covets territory the other holds and of whom both covet identical territories abroad. The outbursts of fanatical hatred between Italians and Austrians from time to time are only surface indications of a smouldering flame ; but Count Goluchowski retires leaving his German and Italian colleagues engaged in drawing up a new lease of the Triple alliance. Whatever the modifications it has undergone, and however frail it might prove under certain shocks, they are hardly such as would be administered by the association of Austria and Italy, they are far more likely to arise from the collision of the third partner with some other Power.

Count Goluchowski has shown equal capacity in keeping a straight course through the Near Eastern muddle. In the Balkans the protégés of Russia and Austria are not the same, and the ambitions of one side cannot be realised without offending the other. Any real change in the equilibrium of Balkan forces would almost certainly mean a violent clash of Russian and Austrian aims. A serious uprising and an inter-

ference by force of arms by Bulgaria would lead to a war with the gravest possibilities; on the other hand there is Western Europe chafing at the constantly recurring scandals of Turkish maladministration. To keep all parties reasonably quiescent and yet to make some sort of advance towards lessening Macedonian misery is no small title to gratitude from other nations than his own. It is somewhat singular that the retirement of Count Calice from the Austrian Embassy at Constantinople tallies in time almost exactly with that of his chief. He will be difficult to replace, for as doyen of the Diplomatic Corps with a mass of accumulated experience in dealing with Ottoman affairs he held a position that was unrivalled and will not be fully reproduced in the case of any successor. But there is no reason to believe that any change in Austrian policy in the Balkans will ensue upon the retirement of Count Goluchowski; it is dictated by the needs of the situation which are always present. Everyone is terrified at the idea of disturbing the status quo. Nobody can doubt that the action both of Russia and Austria is already determined upon in the case of Bulgaria taking the field and that Bulgaria knows what it is likely to be.

Having regard then to the established fact that there is no serious intention of changing the lines of foreign policy, it is evident that the retirement of the Austro-Hungarian Foreign Minister is due to Hungarian pressure. This is indeed the only rational explanation and nobody doubts it, but it is a fact that gives rise to grave considerations; for it means that no Minister common to the two divisions of the Monarchy can possibly be retained at his post if he should be an object of suspicion, however absurd, on the part of the Hungarians. In the present state of feeling it would seem unfortunately to be the case that every incident, however petty, must be twisted into a pro-Magyar or anti-Magyar demonstration. The courtesy of a foreign potentate who invites a distinguished Hungarian to an audience is interpreted as a publication to the world that King Edward is at one with the advocates of Magyarism. The English people are backing up the extreme Magyar propaganda because certain youthful British politicians make a holiday trip to Buda-Pesth. In the same spirit an Austro-Hungarian Foreign Minister who does not swallow the complete Magyar formulae must be hounded out of office, although his policy may be such as is approved by both sections of the Monarchy. It is unnecessary to repeat the arguments we have often advanced to show the folly of violent Magyarism. The interests of Austria and Hungary abroad are one and, were they separated, the influence of each would be destroyed. We concede that their economic interests are not identical and if their politicians would devote themselves to adjusting those differences they would be pursuing a sensible course; but to transport race feeling into the field of foreign policy and to dictate the rise and fall of Ministers on the ground of their imagined reluctance to accept Magyar views of home policy is surely the very madness of dissidence. We regret to differ from Hungarian national views, for the Hungarian people are singularly gifted with qualities that excite English sympathy, but a persistence in unreasonable policy can only sunder peoples that are made to understand one another. It is not easy to see in what respect a purely Hungarian foreign policy would differ from an Austro-Hungarian policy, for Hungary has much more sympathy with the Turks than with the struggling nationalities, neither do they love Slavs more than Germans. The high function of Austro-Hungarian policy in Europe is to hold an even balance; the crude ambition of the Magyar is to kick over the scales. This is not even for his own benefit but is certainly for the confusion of all.

The announcement of Count Goluchowski's successor will be on the whole more pleasing to Russia than to Germany and clearly points to the maintenance of a good understanding in the Balkans as the corner-stone of Austrian policy. Baron von Achrenthal has had every opportunity while at S. Petersburg of learning Russian views. He is a Czech and therefore has Slav sympathies; through his wife he is connected with the Magyar nobility, and his family are by tradition Germanophil.

It would be difficult to find any man with better qualifications for the arduous post he has assumed, but he is not therefore assured of a welcome from Buda-Pesth. He does not please, as a strong Catholic, the powerful Calvinist minority in Hungary. But if by factiously ousting King Log the Magyars have substituted a King Stork, they will only have to thank the selfish policy they so blindly pursue.

#### CONSERVATIVES AND THE LONDON BOROUGH COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

THE London borough council elections will be on next week. To the local wirepuller, the local tradesman, the aspirant for a councillorship or a mayoralty, this will appear a matter of vast national importance. To others hardly so. Indeed, if borough councils would mind only their own business, it would matter very little to anyone but the candidates themselves whether they were accepted or rejected. It is the introduction of extraneous matters, matters which the councillors, when elected, cannot touch without exceeding their commission, that gives to these elections a factitious importance.

The party system is obviously inappropriate to such bodies as the borough councils. Their duties are purely administrative and parochial. The ideal council would be an assembly of businesslike and public-spirited citizens, knowing the needs of the locality and chosen without regard to party. But a party division is considered by modern Englishmen as essential to political health and accordingly a party division is supplied. Since the parochial politics of the borough will not afford anything more satisfying in the way of a contest than competing by both parties to be regarded as the champions of "economy and efficiency", they are frankly abandoned, and the citizens are called upon to vote according to their views on imperial politics. In other words the political parties seek to capture the borough councils because they afford a convenient base for operations at Spring Gardens and at Westminster.

It is for this reason that we should be glad to see a check administered to the "Progressive" party at the forthcoming elections. In the present state of politics and with the present Government and House of Commons in the saddle, we have no wish to see the metropolitan boroughs in the hands of Liberal henchmen. The services which a minor municipal body can render to the Government are doubtless often exaggerated by its members; but they are not altogether negligible. There is and always has been a complete understanding between the "Progressive" party in London and the Liberal party at Westminster. And there is not the slightest doubt that wherever the Liberals succeed in holding or capturing a council, they will exploit their position for all it is worth in the interests of their friends in the Imperial Parliament.

Particularly is this likely to be the case in regard to the Education question. No one knows exactly how the tangle created by the West Riding judgment and the Education Bill will eventually be straightened out. But it may be taken as certain that a Liberal victory at the borough polls would encourage the Government to go forward ruthlessly, while a defeat would probably lead them to consider the advisability of drawing back. Moreover the borough councils have some important powers under the Education Act of 1903, including the power of appointing managers for the non-provided schools. Whether Mr. Birrell's Bill passes, or whether the present law remains, this power ought to be in the hands of persons on whose fidelity to the cause of religious teaching we can rely. Churchmen throughout London should see that as many of these as possible are returned to the borough council, and that as many as possible of the champions of "undenominational" monopoly are kept off.

There is yet another reason why a Conservative success would be welcome. It would hearten Conservatives for the much more important election which will take place next March. And it is essential to the welfare of London that a more vigorous and effective opposition should be organised on the County Council, an

opposition capable, should fortune favour them, of assuming and discharging capably the responsibilities of government. We suspect that many "Progressives" would be glad to see such an opposition make its appearance. No party can enjoy so many years of uninterrupted power as have fallen to the lot of the London Progressives without a certain amount of demoralisation. And the signs of such demoralisation have not been far to seek. Indeed the Progressives would long ago have suffered for some of their more egregious errors had it not been for the suspicion that clung to the very name of the old "Moderate" party.

We are glad to see that the name has been abandoned, and with the name one hopes its mistakes. Those errors were neither few nor small. The leaders of the party too often exhibited themselves in the supremely unpopular light of defenders of wealthy corporations, of gas companies and water companies, while they constantly suffered the real and very serious faults of their opponents, the inadequacy of their housing policy and the futility of their so-called temperance policy, to pass without anything like the damaging criticism they deserved. But it seems the London Conservatives have by this time realised the need of a more vigorous and persuasive appeal. And the moment is one when such an appeal can be made with unprecedented force. The "Progressive" party is no longer in the vigour of its first youth. It has alienated many of its best supporters and lost many of its best allies. The old-time alliance between Progressivism and Labour which won for it so many victories is almost dissolved. Labour candidates are coming forward to contest the seats of some of its most orthodox members. The party has exhausted the ideas with which Mr. Sidney Webb supplied it more than fifteen years ago. It has found no new ones. It is hesitating pathetically, fearful of the anger of the ratepayers if it goes forward, fearful of the anger of the Labour party if it stands still. If the London Conservatives do not seize their chance now, they will deserve to lose it for ever. Success on 1 November may encourage them to move.

As to the questions with which the councils properly have to deal, almost all the issues raised by the two parties are false. We are not much impressed with the multitudinous and bewildering columns of figures by which each side endeavours to prove that it has been economical and that the other has been extravagant. Doubtless some councils have been better conducted than others, but we doubt if either party can claim a monopoly either of thrift or of public spirit. Some Progressive and some Conservative councils have known their business, others have not. The result has depended more, we fancy, upon the personnel of the particular body than on its party character.

The controversy concerning municipal trading is a case in point. The sensible citizen will judge of such experiments in this direction as municipalities may make from time to time, not according to abstract principles, socialist or individualist, but according to their success. There can be no doubt that some Progressive councils have wasted public money and sent up the rates to an unjustifiable extent. But we fancy that this has been due not so much to their engaging in "municipal trading" as to their lacking the minimum of business capacity and knowledge which is just as necessary to public as to private enterprise.

There are a good many minor questions upon which energetic councillors could do good work and deserve well of their fellow-citizens. There is, for example, the clearing of smaller insanitary areas, which is their duty under Part II. of the Housing Act. This duty is scandalously neglected by many councils, owing to their unwillingness to increase the borough rate, and their consequent anxiety that any unpopularity which such expenditure may entail should fall on the County Council and not on them. But if the borough councils are to justify their existence, they must prove that they are not unwilling to accept their fair share of responsibility for the health and decency of the districts under their charge. It is also their duty to see that the claim of the municipality to be the model employer of labour is fully justified, and that no sweating of the direct or indirect employés of the council is tolerated.

Nor must they neglect to use vigorously all the powers that the legislature has given them to prevent and palliate unemployment.

All these things would be much better attended to if the political aspect of these elections could be dismissed, and the small change of local government handled without continual reference to the fate of larger transactions. A small and effective body of business men strengthened by a fair number of the best type of labour representatives dealing with matters that came before them on their merits would do much more for London than will be done by those who look upon the borough councils as the first stepping-stone to Parliament and perhaps to a knighthood "for services rendered". But that solution is we suppose past praying for.

#### THE AFFAIRS OF THE LAW.

THERE are so many changes at the Law Courts which might be suggested that the actual changes brought about by the Long Vacation seem very meagre. One Judge of the Court of Appeal, Sir Robert Romer, has retired, and another taken from the High Court Bench steps into his place; and we have now Mr. Justice Parker instead of Mr. Justice Buckley. Nothing of any particular consequence is involved in this and the character of the Bench as a whole is hardly affected. If we say we expected more and hoped for more it would hardly be true. As compulsory retirement has not yet been introduced into the charmed circle of the Bench, resignations are left to the inclination of the individual; and it is almost a law that those linger longest on the stage who can best be spared. A time can be recalled by lawyers when the problem was to induce judges who were too old for their work to make their bow and go. Most of them were at any rate able men and had had distinguished careers; but the idea became fixed in the mind of the legal profession that the incapacity through age of the judges was the great hindrance to the expedition of business in the Courts. It is quite true that when a batch of younger men replaced them the effect on business was not very perceptible; but lawyers have learned since then that even were judges endowed with immortal youth this would not avail to put an end to the perennial complaints that they are always working with their lists hopelessly in arrear. Nor if all the judges were Jessells would they perhaps be able to keep the wheels of litigation smoothly moving so long as there are so many obstructions in the system they administer. But nevertheless it was desirable, as we may say, for the look of the thing, that with the long vacation more changes should have taken place on the Bench. If our judiciary was constituted like that of some countries, where there are an immense number of judges with very moderate salaries, we could not expect all our judges to be men of intellectual and legal distinction. But as we have few judges with extremely high salaries, a Bench with a too great infusion of mediocrity is against our sense of the fitness of things. Even including mediocrities, however, there are too few judges for the work that has to be done; but neither a Conservative nor a Liberal Government can be persuaded to increase the number. Since 1897 no additional judge has been made, though if there is unanimity about anything in the legal profession it is that an increase of judges is necessary. In that year the complaints about the arrears in the Chancery Division were as great as they are now about the arrears in the Common Law Division; but the arrears of the Chancery Division have disappeared with the appearance of the additional Chancery judge. As the new sittings have begun with the same stock of judges, and there are more cases than ever in the lists, the muddle for the coming year will be as great if not greater than it was throughout last year. The rapidity with which the West Riding case passed through the Court of Appeal is misleading. It is by no means normal; and it is almost certain to be heard and decided in the House of Lords quicker than are other cases.

The House of Lords is in much the same dilemma

as the Court of Appeal; if some lords are sitting on home appeals it must often be neglecting appeals from India and the colonies. And so with the Court of Appeal. The Master of the Rolls is very sensitive about the work of his Court because he fancies that arrears are imputed to the slackness of the members of the Court. That is not so; but the arrears are serious in spite of the ingenious efforts of the Master of the Rolls to explain them. His explanations have not amounted to more than this: that certain kinds of cases long in arrear have been brought up to date; but it has always been at the expense of other cases which have been kept waiting in the meantime. There really ought to be three Courts of Appeal with as steady a supply of judges as the existing two have. Last sittings there were futile efforts made to keep three Courts at work under a foolish Act of Parliament passed a few years ago. It was recognised then that three Courts were necessary; but as there was no supply of judges to be drawn from it was provided that the Lord Chancellor the Lord Chief Justice and the President of the Probate Division should be enabled to form a separate Court. As if these functionaries had not other duties which make this quite impossible. If the same experiment is tried again during these present sittings it will have precisely the same futility. This would be very harassing for the judges if they were carrying on a business of their own which they could never manage properly. But as the business is the nation's, and the nation does not seem to trouble itself much about it, the judges, we suppose, take the matter philosophically and do not allow it to hurry them to a premature grave. Yet they are worried at times; and when a man sets about trying to overtake what is not to be overtaken, either he or his work must suffer. A County Court judge said recently that he did not object to doing his best, but he did object to doing work which would kill him in two or three years. We do not know that a High Court judge has said anything so strong about his own labours; but probably if High Court judges made as desperate efforts to clear off their lists in London as they do sometimes on Circuit, or as a County Court judge does who has the eye of his district or of the Lord Chancellor on him, they would either kill themselves or strike: and then perhaps something would be done.

The changes in the Courts then are not very interesting in themselves and the prospects of the new sittings are very much like what many other sittings have been for years. There are one or two matters however worth noticing. The decision of the Government to appeal to the House of Lords from the judgment of the Appeal Court in the West Riding Education Rate case combines law and politics as they are very rarely combined. The judgment of the Appeal Court was as startling in its unexpectedness as either that of the Scottish Court of Session in the case of the Free Church or of the Court of Appeal in the Taff Vale Railway case; but whatever the Lords' judgment in the West Riding case may be, people are better prepared for it than they were in Scotland for the collapse of the Free Church or for the decisive blow at trade unionism in England; it will not produce consternation. Another House of Lords case which was looked for with the greatest interest was the appeal brought by Lord Justice Fletcher-Moulton from the unfavourable decision of the Appeal Court in the action brought against him by his stepchildren as their trustee. The Judge who first tried the case took a more favourable view of the Lord Justice's conduct than the Court of Appeal did: and it was generally considered that he had made a mistake in bringing the appeal at all. But he certainly seemed after the view taken by the Appeal Court to have little alternative but to have the matter reviewed by the Lords; and he did in fact enter an appeal. Now however it is withdrawn: and we can only wonder whether time and the Lord Justice's judicial ability have removed the uncomfortable impressions which prevailed at the time of the appeal. It would doubtless have been unpleasant to have the family affairs of the Judge discussed once more: but the views of the Appeal Court still remain on record and unaffected. The last topic we need mention is the action of the Revenue authorities brought to test the question whether counsel must stamp receipts given for

their fees in the ordinary way of business men. It is well known counsel cannot recover their fees; therefore, they argue, why should they be obliged to stamp a receipt for them: but this the Revenue people hold is not a conclusive answer. The case may not be of wide importance, but it will be professionally interesting to all lawyers whether solicitors or barristers.

#### THE CITY.

THE monetary position continues to be a source of anxiety. The 6 per cent. rate is working well, but not so fast as the Bank directors desire, and this arouses apprehensions as to a still further advance in the official quotation. Only a small amount of gold has so far been attracted to the Bank by the new conditions, while on the other hand, there has been a further large efflux for Egypt, with the result that the total reserve has been reduced to £18,188,000. American inquiries, however, have been warded off, and there is reason to believe that Egyptian demands are slackening. On the other hand, South American demands are an unknown quantity. But the Bank should get all the Cape gold arriving during the next few weeks, and this is no inconsiderable amount: over a million sterling is due to-day by the s.s. "Norman". At the same time the higher prices offered for foreign gold coins should attract a fair amount from the Continent provided Paris and Berlin do not take measures to prevent their export. Unfortunately in both centres there is a tendency to hoard the metal, and an advance in the Bank of France rate of discount might place an effectual check upon exports to London. Policy, however, demands that both Paris and Berlin should do nothing to aggravate the financial position in London, and we may therefore anticipate that there will be no competitive scramble from the Continent for the available gold supplies. This being so, there is no need to impose a higher Bank rate here.

The settlement in the Stock Exchange gave indications of only a slight reduction in the speculative position in American railway securities. A continuance of dear money, however, must result in a curtailment of "carrying over" facilities and consequent liquidation. Practically all the "bull" account is of Wall Street origin, and is being financed here by means of bills drawn on London. With "contangoes" at 7 to 9 per cent. there can be little profit in continuing these operations. Nor is it desirable that facilities should be given here for maintaining a speculative position fraught with so much danger to European interests.

Consols have not fallen much as the result of a 6 per cent. Bank rate. A number of other circumstances have operated against the price during the last few years, and little room is left for further depreciation. Banks and other large holders of Consols cannot afford to sell them at present prices in order to invest the proceeds temporarily in Lombard Street. And as regards other "gilt-edged" securities the position is much the same. There was a sharp fall in home railway stocks immediately the Bank rate was advanced, but a recovery has since occurred and brokers report buying orders from clients. It is certainly a fine opportunity for investment just now. Most of the leading stocks can be bought to yield 4 per cent. and over, and even with a 6 per cent. Bank rate the banks will not give more than 4 per cent. for money on deposit. On Great Western the yield, based on the last dividend, is fully 4½ per cent. and with a gain of £77,400 in the traffic to date the dividend for the current six months should be increased. It is twenty years since Great Western stock stood so low and even the prospect of labour troubles scarcely justifies the depreciated level.

A sensational rise in the stock of the Mexican Railway Company followed on Thursday's dividend announcement. It was known that the company had had a good half year, and sanguine people hoped for the full dividend payment on the First Preference. Not only, however, is this being done, but the directors are paying 3½ per cent. per annum on the Second Preference. How they are finding the money to do so will not be known till the report is issued. But even that document can hardly justify the payment in face of

the past history of the company. The only excuse the directors can bring forward for their action is that the articles of association demand that all profits should be immediately divided.

The report is revived that the Peruvian Government intend to effect a settlement of the claims of the Peruvian Corporation. Holders of the stocks, however, would do well not to place too much faith in the reported intentions of the Government, as speculative influences have before now been known to be behind them. Another effort is to be made to bring about a settlement of the City of Cordoba Debt. Bondholders are to meet on Wednesday next, when the text of an ad referendum contract will be submitted them. The proposed terms do not err on the side of generosity, and the short time allowed for their consideration suggests a desire to "rush" the scheme. Probably the arrangement is the best that can be made, but bondholders should not hastily agree to the proposals.

South African mining shares remain in the doldrums, always excepting one or two speculative counters such as New Vaal River Diamond and Tanganyika. The New Vaal have had another rise preparatory to the placing of more capital, and there has been a revival of interest in Tanganyika based upon a similar consideration. When dividends cannot be paid, the next best thing for mining directors to do is to raise fresh capital. It gives a fine opportunity for market manipulation and apparently shareholders like it. The East Rand is passing its dividend this half-year, and instead is asking for fresh capital for the Cason property. The scheme to amalgamate all the subsidiaries has very wisely been dropped.

#### THE CLERGY MUTUAL SOCIETY.

OF late it has been necessary on many occasions to comment on insurance matters of an unsatisfactory character. For some months past subjects for adverse criticism have been more than usually prominent. It is therefore with considerable relief that we welcome the valuation returns of the Clergy Mutual Life Assurance Society, since in these life assurance is seen at its very best. The liabilities are valued by the British Offices Tables, with interest at the rate of  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. per annum, while the rate of interest actually earned upon the funds last year was  $\frac{3}{4}$  per cent.; this shows a contribution to surplus of  $\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. per annum, a margin which is more than usually large.

The rates of premium charged by the Clergy Mutual are much lower than the average, and on the particularly stringent basis of valuation adopted by the society it is an actuarial necessity that the provision made for expenses should be relatively small. As a matter of fact the margin set aside for this purpose is about  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. of the premium income. In most insurance companies this would not be sufficient to provide any substantial contribution to surplus from the excess of the expenditure provided for over the expenditure incurred. The society, however, works at an abnormally low cost. The actual expenditure during the past five years, when sundry items of an exceptional nature were included, was only 7.7 per cent. of the premium income: this is but little more than half the average expenditure of British offices, and considering the low rates of premium charged by the society, the performance is even better than it looks. By subtracting the actual expenditure from the expenditure provided for there is seen to be a margin of nearly 8 per cent. of the premium income as a contribution to surplus. The second chief source of profit is therefore larger than generally the case.

According to the mortality tables employed by the society five years ago, it was expected that the claims by death would amount to £1,700,129, but the actual claims amounted to only £1,262,299, a difference of £437,830 in favour of the society. This favourable mortality of course means that money, instead of being paid for claims, remains in the possession of the society and earns interest. It also means, in the majority of cases, the receipt of a larger number of premiums than

was expected according to the calculations upon which the valuation was based.

The rate of interest earned by a life office and the decline in value of securities are to a considerable extent dependent upon circumstances over which it has no control. On re-valuing the assets, as at the end of last May, there was shown a depreciation in value of £61,400, which is about one-eighth of the surplus earned during the past five years. This depreciation is not necessarily a loss, since the securities are still held by the society, and many of them will appreciate in value in the future. Expenditure is wholly under the control of the management and in this respect the superiority of the Clergy Mutual is very marked. It is well known that the society pays no commission and employs no agents. The position taken up from the commencement was that the welfare of existing members was the chief concern of the management.

The system of bonus distribution adopted makes it quite easy to tell the amount of future bonus additions on the assumption that the conditions which have prevailed for the past ten years continue in the future. The prospectus of the society supplies the information which enables future bonuses to be calculated with the utmost ease. The results are very striking. For an annual premium of £27 6s. 8d. a man aged 36 could assure for £1,000. The amount of the policy would increase every five years until at age 50 the sum assured would be £1,262, at age 60 it would be £1,458 increasing to £1,720 by age 70 and continuing to grow with great rapidity until death. As an alternative this same man could take bonuses in reduction of premium: at the first valuation the premium would be reduced to £25 10s. 4d., at age 50 he would be paying only about £20, at age 60 only £11, and at age 70 the premiums would cease altogether and the sum insured would be increased by £224; thereafter large additions would be made to the sum assured.

The endowment assurance policies of the society are if anything still more advantageous: although the rates of premium are very low the bonus additions to the sum assured are at the rate of  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. per annum. A man of 35, paying £50 4s. 2d. a year for twenty years, or £1,004 3s. 4d. in all, would receive £1,400 on surviving to age of 55. This is a return of all the premiums paid accumulated at more than 3 per cent. compound interest, while the return is proportionately better, it may be vastly better, if he dies within the twenty years. If income-tax is deducted from the premiums at the rate of 1s. in the pound and the results under such a policy as this compared with investment in shares, the return at the end of twenty years is better than would result from accumulating the net annual payments at compound interest in shares yielding  $\frac{3}{4}$  per cent. per annum. The policy presents the further advantage that should the policyholder die in the first year his estate receives £950 more than he has paid; if in the second year £900 more than he has paid, and so on. To see the exact benefit it would of course be necessary to add interest on the premiums on the one hand, and to add the bonus additions to the policies on the other.

These facts prove two things: the superiority of life assurance as compared with other methods of investment and the superiority of the Clergy Mutual Society as compared with many other life assurance institutions.

#### MUSICAL DISAPPOINTMENTS.

TWO-THIRDS of the disappointments in life do not come from finding things bad where goodness or perfection was anticipated but simply from finding them altogether different from expectation. In this sense many a lover of music has suffered complete disillusion—and there is nobody who could truthfully claim to have been entirely exempt from such an experience. The now rare appearance of Sarasate in our midst recalls vividly to my mind some of the keenest musical disappointments I have suffered in my time. Foremost in this connexion is the first hearing of a Wagner opera. "Lohengrin" was chosen for the anxiously awaited initiation when I commenced my musical studies at Leipzig. Immersed up to that stage

of my development in classical music, my nervous system was quickly upset by what seemed then the harshness and chaos of the new music. At the end of the first act I fled from the theatre—to be captivated, within a brief period, by "Der Fliegende Holländer" and "Tannhäuser". To ears acclimatised to the dissonances and freakish humours of Richard Strauss this sensitiveness may seem absurdly crude; but eminent musicians are living at this day who flee from the concert hall, as if the devil were at their heels, on the approach of a symphonic poem by a modern master of orchestral effect. Tchaikowsky's Pathetic Symphony was another disappointment, simply brought about not by any deficiencies of its own, but by all the imaginative nonsense one had imbibed about it beforehand through the medium of programme analysts. The misconceptions engendered in this way by well-meaning prose poets ruined the first hearing of the symphony, the true beauties of which were only appreciated, after this cleansing of the mind by disillusion, on subsequent occasions.

If one attempted to enumerate the famous singers whose first hearing produced almost a mental shock, good taste would be offended as well as space exceeded. It is better to observe complete silence, lest one should be tempted into wholesale indiscretion. The disinterested musician can only marvel at the strange happenings in the vocalist world. I read somewhere, the other day, that the greatest continental singers tremble when they appear on the Covent Garden stage, not knowing what reputation they may wake up with next morning. Some are said to be frightened into a kind of vocal paralysis, so entirely is success a matter of chance amongst English audiences. But the hazard is always worth the venture. The British public have one great virtue: they always stick to a popular singer with whose name they have once become familiarised. To succeed in London is therefore a species of insurance for the vocalist. It means an assured competence in old age—so long, in fact, as the vocalist's name is capable of being printed in capital letters on advertisement hoardings. This lovable trait in the English character produces anomalies which are embarrassing to criticism, though I believe that even the conscientious critic becomes hardened to them in course of time. To pass to a less dangerous topic, it may be said that the name of the violoncellist David Popper is better known to the musical public than that of any other contemporary player of the instrument. No man has enriched the meagre literature of the bass as Popper has done. As a composer, he is both the Sarasate and the Chopin of the violoncello, his works possessing the vivacity of the one and the spirit of the instrument breathed in all the writings of the other. For many years he has lived at Budapest, appearing to make concert journeys only at rare intervals. Having heard Davidoff, Piatti, Klengel, Gérardy, Haussmann, Becker, and other distinguished artists, I had looked forward for years to the delight of listening to Popper. At last the opportunity occurred in London, and disillusion could not have been more complete. Instead of grace, exquisite refinement of sentiment, and lightness of execution, the performance was characterised by monotony, staid technical solidity, and lack of inspiration. The impression of these qualities was probably exaggerated by contrary anticipation; but the keenness of the disappointment was none the less real at the moment.

Something akin to this sensation was felt by me, I candidly confess, when I first heard Sarasate a few years ago. In earlier days one's imagination was dazzled by the reputation of the Spanish virtuoso, which has only been equalled—or surpassed—by that of Paganini. Joachim maintained his ground, in the violin world, as the greatest living classical player; but many asserted the superiority, as an executant, of his rival in popularity, Sarasate. Unfortunately, it was not until the latter had reached the autumn of his public career that the long-desired opportunity of hearing him came my way. The actuality of his playing completely overturned all preconceived notions. The Sarasate of former days, if the accounts of others were to be relied upon, had practically disappeared. I was witness of a new stage of artistic evolution. The

audacity, the fire, the triumphant vivacity of the Spanish player had evaporated with the departure of a prolonged youth; and there was left, not the wrecked ability of a great artist—the pathetic climax of many a distinguished career—but the mellow ripeness of the musician concealed beneath this flamboyant virtuosity. I heard Sarasate again, the other day, at the first of his series of three recitals at Bechstein Hall. The mellowness is still there; the hand does not falter, though it has grown more docile; winter is near at hand, but the tranquil flexibility of the artist shows no sign of failing. The disappointment of the former hearing was not repeated. One had become acclimatised to the idea that Sarasate was no longer the symbol of daredevilry in violin-playing, a fit subject for display-advertisements, but a respectable player who had sown his artistic wild oats and left his sensational past behind him.

Illusion and disappointment are the offspring of the imagination. It is always dangerous to anticipate. The things to which people look forward with the deepest sense of coming enjoyment are always those which turn out the most conspicuous failures in this respect. We cannot see with each other's eyes, mental or physical, and nothing is more fatal to individual intelligence than the acceptance of facts or fancies at second hand. Happily for us, the finest achievements in art are often those which cause the least mental illusion of the kind indicated, because they have not become universally popular and misconceptions regarding them are not, consequently, spread so broadcast as in the case of works of a more ephemeral character. The mental picture pre-formed in our minds is a more confusing factor in the creation of individual judgment than many seem inclined to admit. And if my assertion be true, nobody can doubt that our methods of training the mind, whether in regard to music or anything else that makes high intellectual demands upon the brain, require the most careful revision. The rough and ready process of forming a collection of the world's reputed best thoughts, and cramming them into the mind of every learner in as voluminous a degree as possible, is inconsistent with real progress. Disappointment is the involuntary protest of the mind against this academic interference with natural mental evolution.

HAROLD E. GORST.

#### APPLE TREES.

**I**N the dim deep quietude  
Midmost of a noble wood,  
When the staring sunset red  
Benedicts the day that's dead  
And the birds are calling out  
Their late singing; thereabout  
Seek an orchard, crispy stalks,  
Nodding apples, wild grown walks,  
Apples red and apples sere,  
Blossomed apples everywhere.

And a grey gardener walks the grass,  
Dreaming over the time that was,  
Who has seen upon this earth  
Many a season blossom to mirth,  
Till the tide of nature seems  
Changeless as his changeless dreams.  
Hear the benediction sound  
Roll o'er this enchanted ground.

J. M. HONE.

## PSHAW !

UPON reflection I find that what annoyed me most in the performance at the Court Theatre on Tuesday afternoon was its pretentiousness. Dulness may be pardoned, even grossness, for it is not given to everybody to be witty and refined. But when a playwright without a plot mounts the pulpit and sermonises for three hours about nothing, with a style that is perpetually aiming at a nail and missing it, I rebel. Perhaps it is because people have ceased to go to church, and have begun to regard the Ten Commandments as "harassing legislation", that so many playwrights think they have a mission to reform mankind by means of the stage. More probably the nuisance is traceable to the success of Messrs. Oscar Wilde and Bernard Shaw. Oscar Wilde was, and Mr. Bernard Shaw is, the wittiest Irishman of his day. Both men wrote comedies in which the perennial problems of society are handled with an audacity that first made people stare, and then made them laugh. But their imitators, of whom Mr. St. John Hankin is one, are insufferable. The casuistry of common life, without wit to keep it sweet, and without the tact of a first-rate literary gift to save it from offence, is a bore. If Wilde or Shaw had sat down to persuade us that an officer who embezzled the mess-funds ought not to be cut, and that ladies ought to employ thieving, drunken, adulterous butlers in preference to sober, honest, and clean ones, they would at least have made us laugh during the demonstration. It was not till the end of the third act of "The Charity that began at Home" that I got a chance of laughing, and then I only laughed because Mr. Ben Webster laughed. Presumably the motive of the piece is the reduction of altruism to an absurdity by pushing it to, or rather beyond, its logical conclusions. This is a very good subject for satire, and that's what makes the failure of Mr. Hankin to amuse all the more exasperating. One feels that he has got hold of a capital theme for a comedy. To invite a number of people to a country house, not because they are agreeable or influential or because one likes them, but because they are so disagreeable, or so poor, or so disreputable, that no one else will have them, is an excellent idea. But then something must happen in the country house where Mr. Hankin assembles his queer guests. Verreker might rob his hostess : the angular governess might elope with the good-looking footman : or the impossible Mrs. Horrocks might slap General Bonson's face. But for two whole acts positively nothing happens. The first act might literally be dispensed with. Old Lady Denison piffles amiably over her work-basket, the guests arrive, and then Lady Denison explains to her sister, Mrs. Eversleigh, why she has asked them. This explanation might be given in five minutes' conversation between the sisters at the beginning of the second act. But stop ! I am forgetting : something does happen in the second act. It must have been the consciousness that some incident was necessary before the third act, and that something had to happen in the country house, that impelled Mr. Hankin to insert the episode of the butler and the lady's-maid. It is perfectly offensive, and wholly irrelevant. There is nothing new and nothing funny about the seduction of a lady's-maid by a married butler ; and its introduction is inexcusable, because altruism has nothing to do with the condonation of crime. I do not pass for a prude, but when the culprit butler (who looked and talked like a leading K.C.) stood in one corner, and the snivelling lady's-maid crouched in another, while Lady Denison, Mrs. Eversleigh, and Hylton (the Saint) sat in judgment between them, I felt fairly uncomfortable. "Why do you object to waltzing?" asks the Abbé of the Marquise in one of De Musset's Proverbes. "Parce que c'est indécent", is the reply. And that is the reason I object to the episode of the butler and the lady's-maid.

In the third act General Bonson (an exaggerated and obsolete type, but well acted by Mr. Dennis Eadie), receives a letter from the colonel of Verreker's regiment stating that the young gentleman had helped himself to the regimental money entrusted to his care and "faked" the accounts. The General has no sooner imparted this intelligence to Lady Denison

than Margery (the gushing ingénue under the influence of Saint Hylton) enters from the garden, dragging in Hugh Verreker, who has sprained his ankle—another pointless mishap—and announces their engagement. Then, for the first time, we get something like a situation. Mr. Ben Webster's acting whilst he is being indicted by Lady Denison, Mrs. Eversleigh, and Hylton, is really very good. It is difficult to sit silent and know how to look for twenty minutes whilst one's character is being pulled to pieces by three assailants. But Mr. Webster half lies on the sofa and glowers defiance in a most effective manner. On being pressed to break off the engagement Margery answers that Hugh told her all about the money before he asked her to marry him, which she thinks very honourable, and acting on Hylton's principle that people should get, not what they deserve, but what they want, she means to marry in order to reform him. At this point Verreker gets his revenge. Mrs. Eversleigh, the tart type of the woman of the world, is provoked into telling him that he was invited to the house, like the other people, out of charity, because no one else would ask him. The other people coming in, Verreker gleefully informs them why they have been invited, and the curtain goes down on something like a stroke of comedy. The fourth act discloses a cosy family dinner, at which Verreker lays down the law to his future relatives and Saint Hylton, as if that little incident of the mess-funds had never turned up. Indeed Hylton apologises to Verreker for having spoken harshly of so trifling an indiscretion, which is quite in the Shavian manner. But with the ball at his feet, Verreker acts after his kind. He breaks off his engagement because Margery is a saint, and he doesn't like saints : they weary him, and he will take no risk of being made uncomfortable. He advises Margery to marry Hylton, and declares he is doing an unselfish thing, because Margery will have money and he has none, and he is claiming no compensation.

The character of Verreker and its consummate acting by Mr. Ben Webster saved "The Charity that began at Home" from nothingness. I see that most of the critics object that Hugh Verreker is a cad. Of course he is a cad, an outrageous blackguard. But then the selfish, brutal, sensual young man of the day is a cad, be his clothes cut never so smartly, and be his voice never so softly modulated. It is this conception and presentation of outward refinement and inward ruffianism that convince me that Mr. St. John Hankin really understands the rising generation, and that he could write a great comedy, if he would be less affected, and give up straining after cheap epigrams and cheaper paradoxes. As old Selden said of rhetoric, "It is either very good, or stark naught". Epigrams and paradoxes are either very good or stark naught. It is a perilous endeavour to imitate Wilde and Shaw. But verbal wit is not everything in a comedy. Humour and insight into character are more. I cannot discover much humour in Mr. Hankin, or we should not have had that terrible scene with Soames and Anson—to think of a charming young actress like Miss Gertrude Henriquez taking such a part ! But knowledge of human nature Mr. Hankin has, and if he will only work this vein simply, he will some day "strike it rich".

ARTHUR A. BAUMANN.

## THROWN.

I'M down, good Fate, you've won the race ;  
Bite deep and break a tooth in me ;  
Now spit your poison in my face,  
And let me be ;  
Leave me an hour and come again  
With insults new and further pain.  
For of your tooth I'll make a pen,  
And of your slaver ink, and will  
I bring a joy to being then  
To race you still,  
A laughing child with feathered heels  
Who shall outspeed your chariot wheels.

RALPH HODGSON

## WHY RUN?

SOME time ago "Punch" had a picture of a British working-man taking his ease in his tavern. To him enter an excited friend—"Hi! Bill. Quick! Tom So-and-so has run away with your wife!" But why?"—says the cynical relict, pausing in the degustation of his second pint of four ale—"Why run?"

This question has been forcibly recalled to mind lately by the excitement into which our guide, philosopher and friend the "Halfpenny Headline" has worked itself over an elopement. The fugitives, it appears, have run between two and three thousand miles with the injured party in pursuit. To the serious-minded the length of the course has nothing to do with the case. The breaking of a world's record excuseth not the breach of one of God's commandments. Nor, apart from the distance travelled, is there anything peculiar about the case. It is just as sad and sordid as such cases always are. Round some elopements romance has cast its halo. Lydia Languish's grief at missing the amiable ladder of ropes and the conscious moon is quite comprehensible. One is glad that John Scott got over the border with his Bessie. Authors and artists have combined to enlist our sympathies with the fugitive couple and against the stern stage father who ineffectually pursues. In these cases there was an end to be obtained by running. Once at Gretna Green, and irretrievably joined by the obliging blacksmith, one had the pull over paternal authority. The best had to be made of a bad job, and sometimes with excellent results. Though Lord Eldon in old age was pleased to exaggerate the hardships of his early married life, Bessie made him a very good wife. And, after all, what did the hardships amount to? To the young couple going out in the mud to buy sprats for their own supper! A mere lark.

To this case, however, there seems no likelihood of a happy ending. Two ends only seem possible, one, battle murder and sudden death, the other, reconciliation and a meeting à la three jolly huntsmen,

"Then one said to another, 'This hunting does not pay,  
But—we've powlert up and down a bit and had a rattlin' day'."

The latter seems improbable, and at the former none can laugh.

But none can do other than laugh at the "Halfpenny Headline". For that up-to-date educator does not take our view at all, and has been at the pains to consult various "eminent hands" as to what is best to be done in the case; and most amusing reading their opinions make.

No. 1, a playwright and littérateur, is about the sanest of the lot. He advises a legal settlement, and characteristically bids all concerned "keep their hair on". No. 2, a philosopher, is in favour of "the good old rule the simple plan 'Tue-la'". No. 3 sees that rough justice and goes two homicides better. His laconic advice is, "Shoot first her then him yourself". And there'd be an end of one, two, three, as in the case of the frog who would a wooing go. No. 4, another novelist and dramatist, raises a plaintive cry of "my thunder". "The situation is identical with that conceived in my third act". A clear case of infringement of copyright. Etc. etc.

None of the pundits seems to have tackled the question "Why run?" but if running is in future to entail such floods of balderdash, it is worth considering. It is bad to be injured, worse to be guilty, and really quite unbearable to be ridiculous. As Dryden says, in another connexion :

"To die for faction is a common evil,  
But to be hanged for nonsense is the devil."

Why then run?

Perhaps some of the blame attaches to the highly progressive century in which these poor people live. There is a great deal too much running done. In the best-regulated life hurry cannot always be avoided. But nine-tenths of the running to-day is absolutely useless, quite absurd, and often dangerous. Take a common case, easily observed, that of the business man. A favourite spectacle for country cousins is to

see the City fill and empty. And it fills and empties at a good round trot. Like the three blind mice, the cry is still "See how they run". They run to work, they run home. In this they have improved, we suppose that is the word, on former generations. Barnes Newcome walked swiftly to work every morning, but when he left the bank in the afternoon no dandy on the Pall Mall pavements trafiled more languidly. To-day, he would run both ways.

You have promised, let us say, to call for a friend at his office, so as to go down into the country together. He is a stockbroker, merchant, what you will. His place of business being ten minutes walk from the station, you call, after business hours, about a quarter of an hour before the train starts. You find him cheerfully doing nothing, unless a cigarette count for work. He absolutely declines to start yet, it is too absurdly early. After five minutes you suggest departure. By no means will he move. It never takes him more than seven minutes at the utmost. Knowing his walking capacities, you doubt but acquiesce. At last you are off and halfway to the train he says "By Jove, old man, we must hurry up, my watch is slow". So you run, ignominiously you run. If luck befriended you, you just catch the moving train, and as you sink perspiring and breathless into your seat, he says "You see we were in plenty of time. Never missed a train in my life". Plenty of time indeed! And all this hurry for nothing. If he had been doing anything, had a letter to write or the like, in those wasted eight minutes, you could forgive him, but he hadn't, or at all events he didn't. You mop your brow, and, though he is your very good friend, remember with complacency that this "just" catching trains leads to many coroners' inquests.

After one or two experiences of this sort a man may be pardoned if he becomes a little uncharitable. If he thinks that all this hurry is put on for purposes of advertisement, to show how busy the runner is. He wishes people to say "Oh! what a most immensely in demand young man, this swift young man must be". It is a variation of Bob Sawyer's method: "My boy always rushes into church, just before the psalms, when the people have got nothing to do but look about 'em, and calls me out. 'Bless my soul,' everybody says, 'somebody taken suddenly ill! Sawyer, late Nockemorff, sent for. What a business that young man has!'"

It is the age of advertisement as well as of hurry. But we protest against running as a method of calling attention to yourself, thinking it inconvenient, most undignified, and probably utterly futile. Certainly we imagine that a sober citizen would think twice before entrusting his affairs to these swift-footed gentry. He would continue to employ Messrs. Slow and Bideawhile, the old family men of business, lest Podasocus should some day take it into his head to run with his client's cash, and the client, pursuing, point a moral for the Halfpenny Headline.

## THE EIGHT DISCARDS

(Continued).

UP to the present time no fewer than eight different systems of discarding have been introduced into the game of bridge.

1. The discard from weakness.
2. The discard from strength.
3. The call for a suit by discard.
4. The mixed discard from strength and weakness.
5. The French discard.
6. The Seven discard.
7. The Canadian discard.
8. The Circular discard.

The first four of these systems were discussed in last week's article, and we will now deal with the last four.

5. The French discard is a convention by which a player discards from the suit of the corresponding colour to that which he wishes led. If he wants his partner to lead a club, he discards a spade; if he wants a diamond, he must discard a heart. We are told by "Red Lancer", who has a large and intimate acquaintance with continental bridge, that this system is

adopted, not only in France, but all over the continent of Europe. "Red Lancer" strongly recommends it himself in his excellent book entitled "Cosmopolitan Bridge", and he considers it a great improvement on our system of discarding from weakness, but the drawbacks to it are very obvious. Suppose that hearts are being led, and a player, who has no more hearts, wishes to show strength in diamonds. In such a case we are told that he must discard from his weakest suit, say spades; but by so doing he will be giving absolutely false information, as he will be indicating strength in clubs, and this situation is bound to arise at least once out of three times, therefore the system is intrinsically bad.

6. The Seven discard is a convention by which the first discard of a 7 or any higher card indicates strength in the suit discarded, and the first discard of a card lower than the 7 indicates weakness. Whence came this convention we do not know, but "Red Lancer" tells us that it is of colonial origin. The weakness of the system is at once apparent. It must so often happen that the composition of the hand renders it impossible. Suppose that a player's strong suit is ace, queen, 6, 3, 2, and his weak suit knave, 9, 8, how is he to indicate either strength or weakness in that case? He will be obliged to deceive his partner whichever suit he elects to discard from, with the result that he is almost certain to get the wrong suit led to him.

7. The Canadian discard. This consists of discarding an even card, a 2, 4, 6, or 8, to indicate strength in a suit, and an odd card to indicate weakness. It is an invention of certain players in Canada for use in their own circle, and when some of them were over here in the spring of this year, they introduced it to us, and we gave it a trial, but it did not meet with much approval. It is probably the best of all the arbitrary systems of discarding, as a player will very rarely find himself without either an even card of his strong suit or an odd one of his weak suit which he can discard, and therefore it is easy to adopt, but that is about all that can be said in its favour.

8. The Circular discard is a system by which the four suits are arranged in rotation according to their value—hearts, diamonds, clubs, spades—and a player is supposed to discard from the suit next above the one which he wishes led, thus the discard of a diamond indicates strength in clubs, and the discard of a spade calls for a lead of hearts. This extraordinary arrangement is said to have originated in the fertile brain of a writer who signs himself "Lynx", and possibly he may be proud of it, but a more impossible or ridiculous convention it is difficult to imagine.

These are the only known systems of discarding, and we sincerely hope that their number will never be added to. The last four systems (Nos. 5 to 8) are all purely arbitrary ones, by which is meant that the origin of not one of them can be traced back to any known principle of playing the cards, they really amount to nothing more than privately arranged signals between certain players, and are therefore radically wrong. The first principle of any genuine convention must be that it is arrived at by a logical extension of some known method of play.

Thus, the convention of the discard from weakness is merely the natural inclination of a player to discard his useless cards. The discard from strength owes its origin to very much the same principle. When a player finds that he has no chance of bringing in his long suit, he will naturally discard superfluous cards of that suit in order to keep his other suits guarded. The call by discard is simply an extension of the recognised custom of discarding the highest card of a suit in order to show entire command of it.

These three are all genuine conventions, arrived at by a simple process of reasoning, and they are the only ones worth discussing seriously.

Systems 1 and 2 both have merits, and the advantages and disadvantages are fairly evenly balanced between them, but No. 1, in conjunction with No. 3, is so universally adopted among English players that it is folly to look beyond it, and we strongly advise all beginners to adopt that system and that only, and to dismiss all others from their minds.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### THE ATTITUDE OF SOCIALISTS TO CONSERVATISM.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

25 October, 1906.

SIR,—In your interesting article on the attitude of Conservatives to socialism you remark that "Conservatives have no need to be frightened from their own principles by the name of socialism. If Liberalism has had to desert individualism, and come round to the conception of State action operative in any and every sphere of social and industrial activity, Toryism has not had to execute any such volte-face".

This is not the only right-about-turn the Liberals have executed. After a prolonged and fruitless effort to cajole us into an alliance with them they now threaten us with a crusade against socialism—a threat which we deride as we derided their proffered alliance. With characteristic confusion of ideas they have mistaken Anarchism—the logical issue of their own political faith, though they are not courageous enough to face that fact—for socialism, and it is a significant circumstance that representative Anarchists like my friend Kropotkin, are constantly rebuking socialists for their hostility to the Liberal party.

Antipathies are more irreconcilable than hatreds. The Socialist opposes both Liberal and Tory because they are prepared to defend in common a position of economic vantage which they occupy jointly and from which the organised workers will have to oust them before they can enjoy the social freedom which is the field of conquest of democracy. To the extent that Tory and Liberal alike are determined to preserve private property in the means of life, there is, from the socialist point of view, no difference between them, though a distinction is not difficult to discover between our irreconcilable antipathy to Liberalism and the sneaking regard we preserve for a party that never embraced the doctrine of "everyone for himself and the Devil catch the hindmost". The socialist attitude to Liberalism is one of unrelenting hostility; to Conservatism it is one of watchfulness. When the Tory party is prepared to fight us we shall not decline the combat and—God defend the right. In the meantime we are waiting to see how far you are prepared to go in such matters as the nationalisation of railways or of mines. We share the opinion of your reviewer that "there are at least as many if not more Conservatives than there are Liberals who would be prepared to go with the socialists" so far. As a member of the executive of the oldest socialist organisation in this country I cannot pledge myself that it will call upon its members to vote Tory if your party adopts in its programme those two planks, but I am perfectly certain in which box socialist voting papers would be dropped in constituencies where no candidates of our own are in the field. Liberal promises to support the same proposals would fail to catch socialist votes because we know from experience the value of their election promises.

The difficulty about socialism to which your reviewer refers—"that it has so many different meanings"—is more apparent than real. The root of the word indicates its meaning, but companionship can never exist between master and slave. Socialism seeks therefore to extinguish every form of servitude to which man has subjected his fellow-man. Wagedom is in some respects the worst form of slavery and we believe it will prove to be the last. We deny the title "socialist" to anyone who refuses to assist the workers in their effort to emancipate themselves from wagedom, and we refuse it to the workers who still hug their chains. Mr. Chiozza Money has been inviting us to drop the title and to be satisfied with that of Collectivist, which only proves that Mr. Money has not yet completed his education in socialism. Socialists are Collectivists merely because we can discover no other economic basis on which to rear the socialist superstructure.

The Labour party in the House of Commons includes in its ranks a handful of socialists but it is unkind to

saddle us with any responsibility for the Radicalism and Liberalism of the majority and by so doing your reviewer wounds our keenest susceptibilities. It took twenty years' active propaganda among the trade unionists before we could induce them to abandon their motto "No politics!" and we cannot expect them to complete their education more rapidly than Mr. Chiozza Money is perfecting his knowledge of socialism. They prelude the advent in the House of Commons of a social democratic party whose influence will soon rival that exercised by our colleagues in the German Reichstag and in the French Chamber of Deputies. When we have pushed aside the Liberals we shall be ready to cross swords with the Conservatives. In the meantime we may continue to preserve mutual respect.

Yours faithfully,

J. HUNTER WATTS.

#### ETHICS AND RELIGION.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

74 Grosvenor Road, Highbury, London, N.  
23 October, 1906.

SIR,—Truly the mind chained to theological dogma is more wonderful than all the four things put together that Agur, the son of Jakeh, found too wonderful for him.

In your last week's issue there is Mr. Davey, in his fulmination against the Separation policy of the French Government, proclaiming religion to be the one great moral force. Against such a dark-age pronouncement it is fortunate that we can place, as a corrective, the dictum of a greater authority than Mr. Davey and as good a Catholic as he, viz. the late Lord Acton, who declared that "to have no moral test of duty apart from religion is to be a fanatic".

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

D. N. SAMSON.

[Our correspondent's quotation from Lord Acton is interesting, and the dictum cited does not conflict with Mr. Davey's. To argue that religion makes for morality is in itself to say that they are not the same thing, and that morality has intrinsic value. Ethical independence, philosophically, of religion is perfectly compatible with the historic generalisation that, take mankind in the mass, where there is no religious faith, the moral standard professed or attained is usually low. The generalisation may be rejected, but it is not inconsistent with Lord Acton's dictum. It implies no doubt some strong affinity between religion and morality but not identity.—ED. S.R.]

#### THE HIGHER EDUCATION OF WORKING MEN AND WOMEN.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

The Workers' Educational Association,  
198 Windsor Road, Ilford, Essex,  
23 October, 1906.

SIR,—It is a matter for present content that a spirit of educational desire is manifesting itself in working-class circles. Under the auspices of a non-political and unsectarian organisation, known as the Workers' Educational Association, that spirit is being brought into immediate contact with the supply.

The association is a federation of universities and working-class organisations. It was founded in 1903, at the instance of workpeople, and its operations have spread with rapidity. Its constructive work in such towns as Reading, Rochdale, Birmingham, Glasgow, &c., has produced remarkable results. The association has proved that its conception of education as a fundamental force operating through intellectual equipment upon character is sufficient to unite men, otherwise opposed, in common action for educational progress. University extension lectures and other educational movements have been brought into direct contact with workpeople. It is probable that a portion of the extra-

mural work of the new universities will be carried on under its auspices.

Recent demands involving the organisation of towns in South Wales and Monmouthshire, as well as a number of towns in the north-west of England, have induced acute financial need. A letter issued by Canon Barnett, the Bishop of Birmingham, Mr. Thomas Burt M.P., Sir Oliver Lodge, Mr. Shackleton M.P., and Professor Stuart M.P., appealing for financial assistance by means of donations or guarantees for a period of five years, has been issued to the press. It is hoped that the response will be generous, so that the work of development may proceed.

If any of your readers are interested in the work the association sets out to do and would like to know more of the means of doing it, I shall be pleased to send any information at once.

Yours faithfully,

ALBERT MANSBRIDGE.

#### SPELLING REFORM.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

SIR,—Your correspondent covers no fewer than twenty lines of one of your columns with a padding of words which he hopes will enable such attacks on my arguments as "terminological inexactitude", "non-mastery of pros and cons", "series of misstatements", and "adoption of editorial 'we'" (it was the national "we" I used) to pass without substantiation on his part, and pleads that solicitude for your space is the cause of the absence of that substantiation! I must say I do not think his polemical methods are remarkable for their straightness.

Nevertheless, there is one point at which he has "got" me, and he has not failed to make the most of his advantage. I was, it appears, mistaken in supposing that no movement in spelling reform had been made in France, and I ask pardon for having misled your readers in this particular. But a mistake due to an imperfect knowledge of contemporary French history cannot of itself put me "out of court" as a "trustworthy guide" on the propriety of reforming the spelling of our language. My trustworthiness must depend on the degree of soundness which marks my judgment, not on the verity of a subordinate statement.

I am as well acquainted with the arguments pro—if indeed they amount to a plural—as I am with the arguments contra. The chief of the former series is that children suffer a great amount of distress in learning to spell. I understand from a lady who has had considerable experience as a governess that this is not the case, and the explanation probably is that the mind of a child is the seat of an absorbent faculty. It is apart from this positive testimony, sufficiently significant that one never hears in private life of any such puerile distress as that which is so frequently exploited through the press by the agitators of spelling reform.

The other argument pro reform was dealt with in my last letter, and is that the present spelling is a corruption of an older spelling which was phonetic. This quasi-scientific argument is never likely to have any effect on public opinion at large, but I can only repeat that one cannot regard an orthography as corrupt which owes its perfection to the evolution of the language in its literary form.

Yours, &c.

LINDSAY S. GARRETT.

#### THE NATION AND HOLMAN HUNT'S "THE LADY OF SHALOTT".

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

SIR,—We trust you will lend our committee the help of the SATURDAY REVIEW in our efforts to secure to the nation "The Lady of Shalott". We had hoped that the Treasury might have been induced to make a grant to meet private subscriptions for so laudable an object, but we have been met by a "non possumus", and must depend on our own exertions and the advocacy of the press.

27 October, 1906

The picture which is now on view at the Holman Hunt Exhibition at the Leicester Galleries, Leicester Square, can be obtained for 7,000 guineas.

A committee has been formed for the carrying out of this object, including the names of the Rev. H. M. Butler, Master of Trinity, Cambridge; the Earl of Carlisle, S. P. Cockerell, Walter Crane, I. Gollancz, Anthony Hope, T. G. Jackson, R.A.; the Bishop of Ripon, Sir William B. Richmond, R.A.; Canon Rawnsley, Archdeacon Sinclair, the Bishop Elect of Truro, T. H. Warren, Vice-Chancellor of Oxford; Mr. F. Shields, the Rev. H. G. Woods, Master of the Temple; and they will be glad to add to their number the names of those who are interested in this proposal.

Among the sums already promised is one of £250 given conditionally that nine others will promise a like amount. The Master of the Temple is hon. treasurer of the fund, and subscriptions will be gratefully received by him.

A subscription list, through the kindness of Messrs. Ernest Brown and Phillips, is also open at the Leicester Galleries, Leicester Square.

We have the honour to remain,  
Yours faithfully,  
H. G. Woods, Hon. Treasurer,  
Temple, E.C.  
H. D. RAWNSLEY, Hon. Secretary,  
Crosthwaite Vicarage, Keswick.

#### THE DISCARD IN BRIDGE.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

13 October, 1906.

SIR,—It was quite refreshing to read your article in to-day's SATURDAY on the above. "Theoretical vapourings" is quite a mild expression for all the nonsense that has been said and written on this aspect of the game, and your timely well-balanced advice should do much to convince the doubting and give a lead to those still wandering without a guide on this much-vexed question. The discard from strength against red trump strength and from weakness with it has always seemed to me the sound practice generally. But the rule must be broken sometimes—especially when you the leader or his partner hold four red trumps and a long suit against the declarer's five. Take the following case. Hearts are declared against you with the score game all and the dealer 24 up. The leader has led trumps because holding four to 10, 8, and a protected hand otherwise (three of each suit) he thinks the only chance of winning the odd and saving the rubber is that you his partner hold at least two trumps and a long suit also. Two rounds of trumps have come out and four honours—leaving the leader with the tenace, 10, 8, over the declarer's 9 and two others—when you have to make your first discard. Obviously it should be from a weak suit not your strong one. And if your partner gets in again he will probably if a good player lead your strong suit which may save the game and the rubber also.

With No Trumps strength against you it is a golden rule to keep double guards to queens if blest with any in the hour of adversity. Yet I have seen the game lost by otherwise good players leaving a queen singly guarded or breaking up a jack to four suit to give the orthodox information to the partner! The game is to win and nothing could be more apt than your remark, "As to the value of information by discard, we repeat that it has been magnified altogether out of its proper proportion". The discard was made for bridge, not bridge for the discard. The remembrance of this may save many pitfalls for the unwary.

I remain, Sir, yours truly,  
D'ESCARTE.

#### "THE ENCYCLOPÆDIA BRITANNICA."

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

24 October.

SIR,—I would advise any of your readers who purchased the ninth edition of the "Encyclopædia

Britannica" from the "Times" to turn to "Lord Dalhousie" in the sixth volume. I have seen more than one copy of this volume, and have found that in the midst of the Life in question another part of the Encyclopædia has been bound up with it. Consequently I should advise anyone who has purchased this publication and discovers this lapse to return the volume in question to the "Times", and ask for a correct copy.

Your obedient servant,  
X. Y. Z.

#### THE "TIMES", THE TRADE, AND THE PUBLIC.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

140 Strand, 25 October, 1906.

SIR,—Before the "Times" enterprise comes to its inevitable end, it will be well for the public, among the many confused issues brought into the discussion, to understand and keep hold of the one and only real one. This is that the "Times" Book Club" is not a commercial speculation. It was started at a dead loss, it has been run throughout at a dead loss, and every further "subscriber" (who subscribes nothing whatever) is an additional dead loss. In such circumstances the published price of any book, high or low, has nothing to do with the case. The only question is how to get a little cash in somehow.

Now there is nothing morally wrong in the "Times" carrying on an enterprise of this sort, any more than there is in the smaller trader in a bye-street professing to give away half a pound of sausages with each pair of slop trousers that he sells.

But since, if persevered in, it would destroy every new bookseller in the kingdom, it is also not morally wrong of the threatened trade to defend itself. The retail trade could not ask, and the publishers could not be expected to do, more than to stipulate for a short time limit, which has been done.

Why the "Times" should object to this, seeing its own avowed object in starting the "Club", is not plain, as it would still have been running a vast circulating library for its readers free. But it is probably connected in some way with the fact that its avowed hope has not been realised. For the great increase in the advertisement columns of the "Times" has not taken place. I have watched those advertisement columns every day since the "Club" was started, and have felt no anxiety as to the future of the trade.

Whether in the circumstances it was worth while to enter on the present struggle with the "Times" is a debateable point. I think it was. A quick grace thrust is a benefit to both attacker and attacked. We shall see before long whether it has not been given.

I will add one word on the greater question of the position of the "Times" itself. Probably every Englishman till lately wished it well, and was sorry for its difficulties—difficulties the fruit of the progressive deterioration in the taste of so-called educated people. But many of us are sure that the remedy was an appeal to a wider public. It was the "Times" for a penny. If other penny papers can still pay, so surely could our one unique national journal. Had it issued after all in defeat, it would have been defeat with colours flying.

But the "Times" is now no longer its old self, and never again can be. The journalistic atmosphere is rarefied, but real. One thing inevitably destroys it—the intrusion of the advertisement department into the editorial. Up to even a fortnight ago this had at least been formally avoided; but the leading article at last appeared, and what that means not only journalists but the public know.

I will not quote the Vergilian tag, but is there any single person connected with the "Times" who has not for some time realised that it is once more true?

Yours faithfully,  
H. C. SOTHERAN.

## REVIEWS.

## ME DUCE.

"From Midshipman to Field-Marshal." By Evelyn Wood, F.M., V.C., G.C.B., G.C.M.G. London: Methuen. 1906. 25s. net.

THE story of Sir Evelyn Wood's life, as set forth by himself, is just the book to please a public ignorant of things military. Impatient of detail and loving variety, it will dash through these crowded pages with satisfaction, marvelling that any human being should have the energy and physique to play the title rôle of the melodrama set before them, without any very serious break-down from start to finish. In fact, in the very first chapters he sets up an idol—himself—and throughout the book proceeds to worship it, presumably expecting all the world to do the same. The book has this one great merit, it is an absolutely faithful exposition of the hero as he is in the life. Tales of his deeds in war or as an army organiser in peace are inextricably mixed up with accounts of his marvellous horsemanship, feats of endurance, accidents, illnesses and family matters, and with such rapidity does he pass from one topic to another that the reader frequently has no time to pause and consider whether all the facts are as stated, or whether the reasons assigned or the deductions hurriedly drawn are to be seriously taken or not.

The broad impression conveyed by the whole book is that of a succession of set pieces in a display of fireworks, of which the central portion is ever Sir Evelyn Wood. Thus the tale of the siege of Sebastopol is of great interest, but the interest centres in the ladder party of the Naval Brigade in the assault on the Redan and the one unwounded bearer of an eighteen-foot ladder—the midshipman of seventeen, who was shot down shortly afterwards by a discharge of grape-shot at close quarters. In the Indian Mutiny, as a lieutenant of Lancers, for he had between whiles changed his cloth, he performed prodigies of valour, his single combats against heavy odds bearing a strange similitude to some of Baron de Marbot's achievements in the Peninsular war against our English dragoons. True, he had no mare Lisette to seize upon and shake his foes. Anyway, he won the Victoria Cross and no doubt he thoroughly deserved it.

Sir Evelyn certainly possesses the art of writing round difficult periods; again and again as the reader approaches some well-known historical crux, he is forced to admit the adroitness with which disagreeable facts are skimmed over. Take, for example, the account of that most untoward affair on 28 March 1879, when Colonel Wood, with Sir Redvers Buller as his second in command, made his abortive attack on the Inhlobane Mountain. Colonel Buller seems to have reached the top and raided a lot of cattle, but the upshot was the loss of both cattle and of many valuable lives, ending with a flight to the camp at Kambula. Both officers' reputations were saved by the fact that on the following morn the Zulu army made a furious attack on the British camp and was repulsed. It has been truly said that it was a fortunate thing that the news of the fruitless and disastrous raid on the 28th and of the defeat of the Zulus on the 29th were reported simultaneously to headquarters. The two officers escaped censure on this occasion, but a scapegoat was found, who suffered accordingly, and, if report be true, most cruelly and unfairly.

Certainly Sir Evelyn Wood by his energy and determination inspired great confidence at this period. Sir Garnet Wolseley writes of him to the Duke of Cambridge as being "the man of the war". But this opinion of him was short-lived, for in 1881 came the Boer War, where his conduct of the negotiations with the Boers after Majuba earned for him a deep-seated unpopularity, both in the army and in the colony of Natal. In justice to him it must be said that the retrocession of the Transvaal and other gross mistakes were made by our politicians over his head, but the reasons General Wood urged for concluding the unfortunate eight days' armistice seem insufficient, nor does the account now published throw fresh light on the subject.

It was just this eight days' armistice and the time thus given for the disastrous muddling of the statesmen at home to take effect, which led to all the subsequent troubles and caused so many of our leading soldiers of the day to be profoundly dissatisfied with General Wood's part in the fiasco.

To turn to brighter subjects, it is generally admitted that in the formation of the Egyptian army after 1882 Sir Evelyn Wood was at his best, and the marvellous success of that force is a standing memorial to his energy and power of organisation. The transports element was however again not lacking and his fervid appeals to be allowed to lead his Egyptian troops against the victorious hosts of the Mahdi in 1885, though they imposed upon nobody, least of all upon his friend and protector, Lord Wolseley, are on record.

The last phase of his services was as a trainer of troops at home and as an organiser at the War Office. In both he did good service, but in both are seen the same striving for firework displays and for the admiration of the press. Thus his "night marches" begun at Colchester and continued at Aldershot were carried to an absurd length and excited grave doubts in the minds of many thinking soldiers; the justice of which was painfully proved at Magersfontein. Charles Williams, the war correspondent, used to describe with gusto how he accompanied the Aldershot Staff on their midnight prowls, and how Sir Evelyn kept the telegraph office at Farnborough open for him, so that by 2 A.M. he had sent 2,000 words to the daily paper he represented for the consumption of the citizen at his breakfast-table. Another "gala" performance was the much-advertised "long-distance rides" which were subsequently killed by Sir Baker Russell's admirable summary that "all the world knows that any fool can ride a hundred miles, although it is likely enough he will give his horse as well as himself a sore back in the process". And it will interest many officers who served under Sir Evelyn Wood at Aldershot to learn that in his opinion his staff were all "polished gentlemen", and that by his system of training he was held to have "popularised military knowledge"! Doubtless there were some excellent staff officers among them, notably Sir Henry Hildyard. But there came a time at Aldershot when, from the chief of the staff down, it was the accepted style to be abrupt and not seldom discourteous to regimental officers. The evil persisted even after the departure of Sir Evelyn, and caused many excellent men to view the "Aldershot system" of instruction as anything but a popular method of imparting knowledge. It is not happy for the Service that several of those who were notoriously unpleasant in the execution of their duties in those days now hold high positions in the army.

It is not difficult to realise, reading between the lines, that Sir Evelyn Wood had no great love for the Duke of Cambridge, but only now and again does he allow himself to show this. It was the fashion at this period to exploit both Evelyn Wood and Redvers Buller as representing the advanced military school of practical soldiers, whereas the Duke was stated to be a confirmed reactionary who hated all education, training or development of the military art. This is assumed at places in the book, but we now know from the "Military Life of the Duke of Cambridge" that such reports were absolutely untrue.

It is both curious and instructive to see how an able man like Sir Evelyn Wood, by reason of the very exuberance of his writing, is apt to contradict hopelessly his own strongly expressed views. Thus in alluding to the value of the Mounted Infantry Regiment which served in the Sudan in 1884-85 he says: "The sound principle of Lord Wolseley's proposal, vetoed by the Commander-in-Chief in 1873, for the Ashantee Expedition, was thoroughly shown in this [the Sudan Expedition, 1884-85] and in the second expedition to Ashantee in 1896, where sections of selected men represented different battalions." Strange that the officer who could maintain so strenuously the soundness of the principle of mixed detachments, which by the way, the Duke of Cambridge ever viewed with keen distrust, should, in a letter to the Duke not given in this book, say: "In spite of the fatal error of taking up a mixed force to the Majuba, and the additional error of

letting the Reserve come up, so that the 58th and 92nd were interlaced, I am convinced that had Colley ordered a charge the Boers would have been driven down the north side of the hill, just as our men were driven from the south side". This letter was written to the Duke from Natal in the spring of 1881, shortly after the disaster of Majuba, and at the time already alluded to, when Sir Evelyn was viewed with such distrust by the British officers and men. Was this distrust entirely unfounded?

Sir Evelyn's last command was that of the 2nd Army Corps at Salisbury Plain under Mr. Brodrick's scheme. It was urged by some that since the Secretary of State had announced that the men who "trained and commanded" our Army Corps in peace time were to lead them in war, the appointment of a man of Sir Evelyn's age to this post was somewhat illogical. The best reply to this was that since the 2nd Army Corps did not exist, no particular harm could result. However, army corps or no army corps, Sir Evelyn continued to the end of his command vigorously to organise and reorganise, and at times disorganise, all and everything which came within his grasp. And on the whole he did a good deal of good.

#### LONDON IN THE POT.

"A Wanderer in London." By E. V. Lucas. London: Methuen. 1906. 6s.

WE should have thought Mr. Lucas had more regard for his literary reputation, and would not have produced such an evident pot-boiler as this. There is nothing spontaneous about it, and we see no reason why Mr. Lucas should not now write another and yet another in an infinite series of the same kind. He has a name; and if he chooses to use it on the title-page of a book about say Manchester or Liverpool or Birmingham or Basingstoke, no doubt the book would sell and therefore be worth while producing from the commercial point of view. All he has to do is to accumulate a few directories and some stock books such as, for London, Loftie or Wheatley and Cunningham, or Sir Walter Besant's productions, and the thing is done. There is nothing easier, given industry, than to write about London; but if the British Museum book compiler, attracted by the plentiful material, should think of it, he would anticipate being told that London had been so overdone that nothing but a name could make the thing worth producing. This is the check on the obscure bookmaker's industry; but what is to stop Mr. Lucas if he chooses to emulate the mere book compiler and exploit the reputation he has gained for other kinds of work? It may be hoped that Mr. Lucas will read this book of his for himself. If his literary conscience has survived the execution of so many affectations, such shoddy, insincere, and pumped-up enthusiasms and moralisings over stale scenes, persons and events, he will be ashamed of the stuff. By supposing that Mr. Lucas had intended to parody the all too numerous books about London we could have understood some parts of it. But a man does not take you through all the rooms of the National Gallery and the Wallace Collection with a catalogue in his hand and insist on you listening to his art notes for the sake of amusing you. He only does that when he has a book to make. The trail of the bookmaker is over every page; but it is especially glaring in the picture gallery parts and in the batch of photograph pictures scattered up and down with haphazard inconsequence. We would give a few samples; but we cannot reproduce several hundred pages. Without troubling about selection, for every page would give an instance, we may take first this.

The subject is the Tate Gallery. "To see certain English painters at their best it is compulsory to visit it. There, for example, hangs Alfred Stevens' portrait of Mrs. Coleman (reproduced opposite page 262), one of the rare portraits by this rare artist. There is Rossetti's 'Ecce Ancilla Domini'. There is a street in Cairo by William James Müller who died at thirty-three, and the 'Harvest Moon' one of England's few great modern landscapes by Cecil Lawson who

died at thirty-one; and the beautiful 'Varenna Woods' of Frederic Lee Bridell, who died at thirty-two. What these men might have done, who shall say? At the Tate also are priceless works by painters who did reach their prime—Constable who although represented only by sketches is again instantly seen to be a giant: look at the colour in Nos. 126 and 127 in Room I." &c. &c. interminably. Equally brainy information is communicated with the same precision of detail about Bloomsbury. "Bloomsbury is bounded on the south by Oxford Street and High Holborn; on the north by Euston Road; on the east by Southampton Row; and on the west by Tottenham Court Road. The British Museum is its heart; its lungs are Bedford Square and Russell Square, Gordon Square and Woburn Square. Lawyers and law students live here; and its aorta is Gower Street which goes on for ever", as Mr. Lucas does. Of course we have "Wills' Coffee House was here" (not in Gower Street but somewhere else) "where John Dryden sat night after night and delivered judgment on new books and plays". How tired we have become of Dryden and Johnson, and the rest of them, with their coffee houses, in books on London! And of this sort of thing: "Next door at No. 20 Russell Street, a hundred and more years later, over what is now a fruiterer's, lodged Charles and Mary Lamb; but the Society of Arts does not recognise the fact, nor even that Lamb was born at 2 Crown Office Row in the Temple, to which we are steadily drawing near. Lamb's rooms I fancy extended to the corner house too, and it was from one of these that directly they were established there in 1817, Mary Lamb had the felicity to see a thief being conveyed to Bow Street Police Station." Is not this the guide-book run to seed? If we could have a worse specimen there is one actually extending over three pages called "Tracking the Gilpins" which, with forced facetiousness, as dull as that of the "poem" itself, traces the places passed through in the ride from Cheapside to Edmonton or Ware—one of the two. Yet we do not doubt there is a public for maundlers of this sort about the sweepings of London streets as there is for Pickwickian archaeology; and Mr. Lucas' wanderings will very likely be popular. There is so much in them that gives pleasure to the many who read everything except literature.

#### JUDAISM PAST AND FUTURE.

"The Jewish Encyclopedia." Vol. XII. Talmud Zweifel. London: Funk and Wagnalls. 1906. 25s.

THE concluding volume of this work begins with the Talmud and may be said to end with Zionism. The association of the two names, though merely alphabetical, tempts one to moralise. At the end of the long story, told in these twelve substantial volumes, we find the Jew still acknowledging the authority of the Babylonian schoolmen, still turning in hope toward the home and sanctuary of his fathers. It is an attitude which at least commands respect. The authority obeyed with such devotion throughout the Christian centuries is altogether alien from the rest of the world; the hope is generally considered to be founded on a great mistake. No wonder that the Jew has had to suffer for his principles, and that so few of the states of Christendom have been able to assimilate him.

It is not difficult to understand how the Talmud has maintained its unique influence. The work not of one mind but of many, it possesses the richness and variety of a collective experience; and although much of it is nothing more than the minutes of discussions in the schools of Babylonia and Palestine, yet a genuine human interest underlies the academic form. Neither teachers nor scholars stood aloof from daily life; their object was to work out in detail the claims of religion upon conduct and belief; hence the more seriously the Jew took his religion the more he was bound to study this vast directory, which soon came to rank next to the Bible in importance. Age after age, therefore, the Talmud has furnished not only a moral but an intellectual discipline of the highest value; as Professor

Bacher observes in his article, the same faculties which were exercised in its composition are needed for the study of it; the whole stream of Jewish literature sprang from it; the intellectual distinction which is characteristic of the Jew has been in great measure the result of its training. Here was a refuge from the unfriendly world outside, and once within it the scattered sons of Israel found a bond which made them one. But while its authority is still acknowledged in matters of traditional practice, the Talmud is no longer an exclusive or dominant influence in Jewish life. Modern culture, Professor Bacher admits, has alienated many Jews from the study of it, and it has come to be looked upon merely as a branch of Jewish theology to be studied by the seminarist, but not of obligation for the ordinary layman.

The Talmud takes us back to the Judaism of tradition; Zionism for many faithful Jews embodies the hopes to be realised in the future. On this subject Professor Gottheil of Columbia University has written a long and dispassionate article, perhaps the most generally interesting in the present volume. The movement may be traced to several causes: the rise, in the first half of the last century, of nationalist sentiment, the awakening of new aspirations after personal and racial freedom, which have produced in many quarters what Professor Gottheil does not shrink from calling a Jewish renaissance; and, more immediately, the outburst of anti-Semitic feeling, which since 1881 has swept across Europe from east to west. In the last ten years the movement has taken a definite form. Zionism, while still interested in a spiritual revival, has adopted for its aim the setting up of an independent Jewish State in Palestine. But it is doubtful whether, after two thousand years of dispersion, the Jews of Europe, America and Asia are capable of combining to form an independent State. From the Jews' own point of view such an enterprise, one imagines, would only play into the hands of Pharaoh and the taskmasters; those who have grudged the Jews the ordinary rights of citizenship would be the first to accuse them of anti-social conduct the moment anything like a general exodus began. Still, many are set ardently upon this utopian scheme; thus on p. 136 of the volume before us we are told, in rather crude language, that "the Jews, as they once taught the nations the knowledge of God, so in the future they are to teach them other religious ideals. But this they cannot do so long as they live in exile, dependent and persecuted. . . . They can do this when they again attain political independence, settling in the land of their fathers, where they, in their political and social life, can realise the ideals of justice and love taught by the Jewish religion." Against this notion history and experience utter warnings which it is perilous to disregard; as a policy it is as retrograde as the temporal ambitions of the Papacy. But many Christians as well as Jews think that Zionism receives its weightiest sanction from certain promises in the Old Testament. It is true that one of the most constant features of prophecy is the promise of Israel's return to its own country; but in what sense is this prophetic language to be understood? A literal interpretation is obviously out of the question: Isaiah, for example, speaks of the restored Israelites flying down upon the shoulder of the Philistines, spoiling the sons of the east, stretching forth their hand upon Edom and Moab, and receiving the obedience of the sons of Ammon; the return is to take place under the conditions which existed in the prophet's day; are these to be reproduced? Most of the prophecies describe a great judgment on the nations, a victorious overthrow of hostile powers, as a prelude to the restoration; are we to have the one without the other? Since the literal interpretation leads to absurdities, both Christians and Jews have resorted to the symbolical, and turned Israel and Zion into "the Church", Egypt and Babylon into "the world", Edom into "Rome" and "national foes", and so on. The prophets, of course, intended nothing of the kind; if the modern study of the Bible has taught us one thing more clearly than another, it is that the prophets were intensely concerned with the circumstances of their own day, and spoke plain words about them; they did not speak of New Testament things

under Old Testament names. The fact that the restoration of Israel, which the prophets expected to occur in the immediate future, has not yet come about seems to indicate the sense in which we are to interpret these promises. We must distinguish between the form and the substance. The form was determined by the conditions of the world as they then were; they have entirely passed away and given place to a new order. The substance, however, the moral interest which was paramount with the prophets, remains in force: that Israel is to be preserved for the sake of the world at large, that the truth in Israel's possession is to become part of the common heritage, that the kingdom of God is bound to be established in the end, this is the element of prophecy which has been, and is still to be, fulfilled. The higher aim of prophecy was always in the direction of universalism; the aim has been so far accomplished that we have come to recognise that God no longer deals with mankind on the principle of nationality; the moral is of no nationality; righteousness is righteousness all the world over; there can be but one moral ruler and one moral law in the universe. To interpret the prophecies in the national, particularist sense, to substitute material things for spiritual, is to take a step backwards instead of advancing on the lines of progress.

The editors and publishers of the Encyclopædia are to be congratulated upon the manner in which they have carried their great undertaking to a successful end. The work has already attained the rank of a standard authority upon everything connected with the Jewish race and religion. In previous reviews we have drawn attention to the judicious temper and sound scholarship which mark the various articles, contributed from almost every quarter of the Jewish world. Nothing but a truly patriotic enthusiasm and a most efficient organisation could have accomplished a task of such magnitude.

#### PORCELAIN OF ALL COUNTRIES.

"Porcelain, Oriental, Continental and British: a Book of Handy Reference for Collectors." By R. L. Hobson. London: Constable. 1906. 12s. 6d. net.

TWO years ago Mr. Edward Dillon gave us a choice volume, richly illustrated, on the porcelains of the world. Its cost was just double of that at which the book before us may be bought; its scope was equally wide. Within the narrower compass of Mr. Hobson's manual it was not possible to include all the features of the larger work which is particularly rich in historical, bibliographical and technological details. But, on the other hand, the smaller volume offers the collector a much more extensive set of marks—just a couple of hundred—in addition to the long series pertaining to the decorators and gilders of Sévres. These potters' marks, so dear to collectors, must of course be used with discretion for the identification of specimens, and ought not to be dissociated from the intimate study of paste, glaze, form and decoration. Still the large collection of these signatures and signs, distributed as they are throughout the text of Mr. Hobson's book and not gathered into plates at the end, constitutes a feature of this manual which ought to be appreciated by the connoisseur.

In any handbook of porcelain one naturally turns to the illustrations. Here there are forty-eight plates, on each of which, with rare exceptions, three specimens are rendered in half-tone. The solitary coloured plate forms the frontispiece and represents a fine vase of old Worcester porcelain, decorated with a panel of "exotic" birds on a deep blue ground. One would have liked to have been offered a few transcripts of monochrome and flambé pieces such as those to be found in the "Chinese Porcelain" of the late Mr. Cosmo Monkhouse. But at least we ought to be grateful for the long series of pictures in half-tone of specimens of porcelain drawn from the treasures of the British Museum collection. Mr. Hobson tells us that his illustrations have been chosen from typical pieces rather than from those of unusual splendour; this is as it

should be in the case of a book not addressed exclusively or primarily to millionaires.

To the East and to the West equal space is allotted in the volume under review. The porcelains of Japan are adequately and sympathetically discussed in thirty-six pages, while the productions of China are dealt with in twice that number. Japanese porcelain, as distinguished from Japanese earthenware and stoneware, is generally, both in origin and decorative treatment, an imitative or derived ware. But Mr. Hobson recognises and describes those points in which it differs from its Chinese prototypes, presenting as it does differences in its raw materials and differences in its treatment in the kiln. The waxy aspect of the glaze too, on close examination, serves to distinguish nearly all the older varieties of Japanese porcelain from the productions of China.

The second half of Mr. Hobson's book opens with a brief chapter explaining how European porcelain originated in attempts, mostly uninstructed and inept, to imitate the marvellous products of Chinese kilns, attempts multiplied as the hard and translucent wares of the East became more widely distributed and better known in the West. Due importance is here assigned to the influence of the famous oriental collection made by Augustus the Strong towards the close of the seventeenth century, and still in great part preserved in the Johanneum of Dresden. Then the author describes in sufficient detail the origins and products of the most important Continental factories, dealing also, but in a more cursory manner, with those which were of secondary rank. Of course amongst all these works Meissen (usually known as Dresden) and Sèvres are discussed with the fulness of treatment which they deserve, but the porcelains of lesser celebrity are not forgotten. The story is told of the way in which the great secret how to make true porcelain, discovered by Böttger about the year 1709, was carried from Meissen to Vienna nine years afterwards, in spite of the most stringent precautions. We learn how porcelain-works in many other German towns were started just before and just after the middle of the eighteenth century. Some of these may be traced to workmen who had learnt their art at Meissen, but others apparently owed their foundation less directly to Böttger's solution of the problem how to make true porcelain.

After describing the various hard-paste porcelains, not only of Germany but of Denmark, Russia, Switzerland, Holland and Belgium, Mr. Hobson introduces his readers to the soft-paste porcelains of France, beginning with the fine ware made by Louis Poterat, at Rouen, towards the close of the third quarter of the seventeenth century, and then passing in rapid review the manufactures of St. Cloud, Lille, Chantilly, Mennecy, and Arras. On the productions of Vincennes, and especially of Sèvres, our attention is next concentrated: then, leaving these imitative or artificial porcelains, a few pages are allotted to the hard porcelains of France. The next chapter is devoted to Italian wares, of which the most interesting, and the earliest of which recognised examples are extant, is the Medician porcelain. This, in composition and in physical properties, approaches true porcelain rather nearly.

The remaining chapters of Mr. Hobson's book, save the last, are occupied with the history of English porcelains, both imitative and true. In four dozen pages our author has condensed a fair and adequate account of the chief English factories, adding critical observations on the origins of the forms and decorative elements of their products. Nor has he forgotten to insert sufficient notices of the minor porcelain works of England, so far as exact information concerning them is available. Mr. Hobson has himself, by means of literary research and keen observation, enriched with fresh details the story of English porcelain, but his chief sources of information have of necessity been those furnished by his precursors in the same field to whom he makes due acknowledgment in his Preface. In technical and chemical matters Mr. Hobson has followed the lead of Mr. W. Burton, who has read the proof-sheets of this handbook. But if there are a few points open to criticism in the pages under review, notably in connexion with the early employment of bone-ash in English soft porcelain, still the ceramic

collector and connoisseur who desires to possess a trustworthy guide in a single volume of moderate dimensions and price, ought to be thankful to Mr. Hobson. Let us add that a full and careful index adds notably to the usefulness of this delightful book.

#### ASTRONOMIC HISTORY.

*"History of the Planetary Systems from Thales to Kepler."* By J. L. E. Dreyer. Cambridge: At the University Press. 1906. 10s. 6d. net.

FEW subjects gain so much by historical treatment as astronomy. Its history extends over a vast period of time; we stand at a sufficient distance from most of the great discoveries to be able to judge them objectively and in their proper proportions, while, when once we have passed beyond obscure questions of origins, we can trace at least in outline and with very fair confidence nearly all the important and many of the minor features in the progress of the science. The subject is in constant contact on the one hand with familiar phenomena and common requirements of civil life and on the other with profound questions of philosophy and theology. Moreover there is probably no subject in which a student of scientific method can find so many admirable examples of the way in which a scientific theory is built up and subsequently modified and fundamentally revised, when it becomes no longer adequate to explain the observed facts.

Dr. Dreyer only calls his book a history of planetary systems; but he inevitably includes theories of the movements of the sun and moon, and adds some account of more general cosmological ideas, as well as of measurements of the earth. Thus interpreted his subject matter includes by far the largest and most important part of astronomy during the period which he considers. If he had added a discussion of the origin of the constellations and of the applications of astronomy to the measurement of time, and had dealt more fully with the methods and results of astronomic observations and with a few matters of minor importance, his book would have given us in moderate compass a complete history of astronomy up to the earlier part of the seventeenth century.

It is however ungracious to lay stress on what author he has omitted when such a book as he has written is much wanted. Not only are many errors current about even important astronomic discoveries, but fundamentally erroneous estimates of the extent and value of the Greek contribution to astronomy are very widely spread. A not uncommon view is that all Greek astronomers alike, from Thales to Ptolemy, held certain absurd opinions about the size and shape of the earth, and the movements of the sun and stars, and employed a cumbersome machinery of spheres or circles to account imperfectly for what little they knew about planetary motions, and that all this was swept away by Copernicus, and replaced by the "truth". No reader of Dr. Dreyer's book could possibly hold such views. He brings out impressively and in detail the immense progress made by Greek writers from Thales to Aristotle and from Aristotle to Hipparchus and Ptolemy. The spherical form of the earth was well known to Aristotle and probably earlier; it was measured with fair accuracy within about a century of his death, and though this knowledge was nearly submerged by the flood of barbarism that followed the destruction of the Roman Empire, it was never seriously disputed except by certain Fathers of the Church and ignorant writers of mediaeval text-books, whose astronomy was theological rather than scientific. On the other hand the modern doctrines of the daily rotation and annual revolution of the earth round the sun, though held by one or more Greek astronomers, were not embodied in the most complete Greek schemes, and their effective discovery was made by Copernicus in the sixteenth century. Dr. Dreyer shares the opinion of nearly all competent authorities that the late Greek astronomers whose views are embodied in the *Almagest* had substantially abandoned the solid celestial spheres which were imagined by their predecessors and which again

played so important a part in mediæval cosmology. Milton's famous description of

"The sphere  
With centric and eccentric scribbled o'er,  
Cycle and epicycle, orb in orb"

contained perhaps better astronomy than the poet realised, for the eccentrics and epicycles of the Greeks were clearly not thought of as constituting a mechanism, but merely as a geometrical method of representing observed motions, and are thus comparable with the terms of the algebraical formulæ which a modern astronomer uses. In Ptolemy's hands they represented the apparent motions with an accuracy about equal to that of the available observations, though they failed to represent the varying distances. The scheme was certainly complicated, and received important simplifications first at the hands of Copernicus and then at those of Kepler. But no one who has ever read Copernicus' book would describe his arrangement of epicycles as simple, though it is simplicity itself compared with the complication of accurate modern formulæ.

A detailed and critical account of Dr. Dreyer's book would only be suitable for the pages of a scientific journal. We must content ourselves with a general expression of its great value and of the important gap in scientific literature which it fills. He has based his history on the original authorities, though he is apparently not an orientalist, and has read the Arabian writers in translations, and he has also considered carefully, though independently, the opinions of all the important modern commentators and historians. He discusses fully and fairly all important disputed questions, and arrives in nearly every case at what appears to us to be the correct conclusion. The result is a thoroughly scholarly and trustworthy account of a very important section of astronomic history. We feel confident that there is no corresponding book in English, and we know of none in any foreign language, that has as many merits as Dr. Dreyer's. It should certainly take its place as the standard treatise on its subject.

We end with one small criticism. Though the book as a whole is well written, there are a few phrases which verge on vulgarisms, some names are not written in the customary English forms, and there are a large number of sentences the arrangement of which is a little strange to the English reader, though a process of word-by-word translation converts them into excellent German. We hope that, when a second edition is called for, Dr. Dreyer will submit his proofs to a friend, preferably a classical scholar with no knowledge of German, so that these defects may be remedied.

#### SAXON, KELT AND DANE.

"Origin of the Anglo-Saxon Race." By the late Thomas William Shore. Edited by his Sons, T. W. Shore and L. E. Shore. London: Elliot Stock. 1906. 9s. net.

THE nature of the Anglo-Saxon conquest of this island has been the subject of more than one controversy and of many books. Mr. J. R. Green, who, with perhaps the exception of Professor Freeman, was the stoutest advocate of what we may describe as the pan-German theory, once said that in the keels of the invading German ships came everything that was to make our England what it is to-day. That he put his case somewhat too strongly would now be generally admitted. Recent research, although it has inflicted more severe blows upon the rival theory which asserts that the German invaders merely settled down upon the existing civilisation of the Romanised Kelts who inhabited Britain, has not left the extreme German doctrine unaffected by its results. What are generally regarded as the most characteristic of Anglo-Saxon institutions are probably the closely allied ideas of representation and the jury system, ideas which the first Anglo-Saxon invaders were supposed to have brought with them from their German homeland. To-day, the utmost that could be

said is there are indications that, about the date of the Norman Conquest, Anglo-Saxon England was working towards some appreciation of the ideas involved in these institutions. In point of fact, they were introduced into England, as normal legal processes, by her Norman and Angevin rulers. We might argue in similar fashion about a number of characteristic "English" methods, and yet, when all is said, the fact remains that the groundwork of the English constitution is English and not Norman or Frankish or Roman. The centuries which passed between the coming of the barbarian invaders and the landing of William the Norman have left their immutable mark upon the land. The race has known many vicissitudes; it has mingled with conquered Kelt and invading Dane and conquering Norman; it has absorbed new ideas and made the customs of stranger people so English that all memory of their origin has long passed away; it has wandered far and in many climes and has remained wholeheartedly English wherever its lot is cast. In talking of its history, we allow for modifications so serious that, at times, all sense of identity seems to be lost: but we soon discover that these are only modifications, and that the original persists, ever changing but never changed. What is this English blood, this English civilisation, this English tongue which seems to set at defiance all the accidents of history, and to rise above all the changes and chances of racial and national vicissitude?

This is the problem which the late Mr. T. W. Shore, a distinguished Hampshire antiquary, discusses at some length and with great learning, in the work before us. His interest is not in historical narrative, in identifying sites of battlefields and the varying boundaries of rival tribes. He attempts to show, largely by the evidence of place-names and local customs, the nature of what we loosely call the Anglo-Saxon settlement in various parts of the country. In spite of, here and there, some rash inferences which would make the professional historian stand aghast, Mr. Shore has, we think, made a real advance in the discussion of his subject. He has entered upon it with no revolutionary ideas, nor is there much that is revolutionary in his book. He applies to English history an idea expressed by the late Professor York Powell in speaking of Teutonic mythology:—"There is one fact", he wrote, "about Teutonic mythology which has never been brought out quite clearly. The mass of legend in more or less simple condition that has come down to us is not the remains of one uniform regular religion, . . . but it is the remains of the separate faiths, more or less parallel, of course, of many different tribes and confederacies". Anglo-Saxon mythology, speech, custom, and race alike, argues Mr. Shore, are similarly the result of the absorption of peoples of many different tribes and nations. "All the available evidence", he says, "the dialects of the period, the surviving customs, or those known to have existed, and the comparison of place-names with those of ancient Germany and Scandinavia, point to the same conclusion, that the English race had its origin in many parent sources, and arose on English soil, not from some great national immigration, but from the commingling here of settlers from many tribes". The last clause of his statement may sound a little more novel than it really is. For the settlers came about the same period, and, for the most part, they belonged to the same great ethnological division of the human race. "Anglo-Saxon" is so convenient a name that we have come to use it of peoples, none perhaps of whom called themselves Saxons, and only a portion of whom called themselves Angles. It is only the name that gives the impression of great national immigrations: a very elementary knowledge of early English history impresses the student with the tribal divisions, and with their supreme importance in the making of England. There is a considerable number of controversial details on which Mr. Shore differs from what may be styled orthodox opinion and he does not seem to us to make good his point in every case. It would serve no useful purpose to enter into a discussion of these minutiae, for the evidence is so scanty that the work of the historian tends to resolve itself into a series of ingenious guesses. But we are quite prepared to acquiesce in Mr. Shore's

main contention that our "old English forefathers could not have been men of three ancient nations only, Jutes, Saxons, and Angles", and that "these names, in reference to the conquest and colonisation of England, were but general names for tribal people in alliance, generally the names of the largest sections of such allies". His argument will appeal to those who believe strongly in mixture of races, and especially to American ethnologists, who are naturally inclined to believe that "it is probably largely owing to this absorption within itself of people of other descent that the race owes much of its vigour".

## NOVELS.

**"Bubble Reputation."** By Alfred Buchanan. London: Skeffington. 1906. 6s.

"Bubble Reputation" is a story of life in Sydney at the present day. Its author, so his brother tells us in a preface, has for the last eleven years identified himself with Australian journalism. "The sketches which follow", proceeds the preface, "enable us to see—almost feel the very pulse of—those of our own race and language who live and work out their destiny under sub-tropical skies". This is a large assertion, but a reading of the book makes one doubt whether eleven years journalism is a good training for a novelist. What we do get is some melodramatic passages, as when the Labour leader's daughter tries to shoot her undesirable husband but hits someone else, whose removal is necessitated by the exigencies of the story, a good description of the Melbourne Cup, and some vivid glimpses (not very pleasing, by the way) of the inner workings of a Sydney newspaper office. But when it comes to characterisation, the author is all at sea. Arthur Ward, whose fortunes and misfortunes form the central theme, is quite inchoate: he is rather a mass of tendencies than an individual. He wants working up, for it is impossible to believe in him as he is.

**"A Lady of Rome."** By F. Marion Crawford. London: Macmillan. 1906. 6s.

"A Lady of Rome" bears signs of forced activity and of hasty construction. A delightful story-teller, and an accomplished artist, Mr. Crawford is less successful in a study of purely psychological interest such as this than in his romances of adventure. It is full of the charm of atmosphere and of feeling peculiar to the author, it is written with the practised skill of the born narrator, and there are in it many excellent pieces of shrewd observation, and witty sayings. But as a study of a great absorbing passion it lacks strength and fire, it is too temperate and easy-going in manner, and the description of Maria's sufferings and self-deception, clever as it is in many points, lacks the power to convince. One is even a little bored during the progress of the love story, the interest of the plot flags, and one is glad when the convenient death of the Comte di Montalto sets his wife free to marry her Baldassare, and all ends in cheerfulness and due propriety.

**"Comet Chaos."** By Cyril Seymour. London: Chatto and Windus. 1906. 6s.

Mr. Seymour is an author who deals in superlatives. He is a master in the art of "journalese". He will never use a word of one or two syllables if he can possibly find one of three or four to convey his meaning, and he deals profusely in adjectives. He cannot write simply of moonbeams. He must needs say "Luna's melting and romantic rays", and when the heroine meets the hero we read "she evinced no astonishment at meeting him". Apart from this terrible habit Mr. Seymour has considerable powers as a story-teller. He seems to be rather trespassing on Mr. Wells' preserves in writing of comets but his story is sufficiently interesting to justify its telling.

**"Shadow and Shine."** By Sarah Doudney. London: Hodder and Stoughton. 1906. 6s.

A series of mild happenings, an enormous amount of ineffective detail and tedious conversation, and some moral teaching compose Miss Doudney's latest book—a kind of novel which, judging from its constant appearance and steady success, is presumably to the

taste of a large number of readers. The merits of "Shadow and Shine" are of a negative kind. If it is of very little use, it can do no harm to the girl-readers for whom it is intended; save that it may spoil their taste and clog their appetite for better fare.

## NEW BOOKS AND REPRINTS.

**"Madame Récamier."** From the French of E. Herriot. By Alys Holland. London: Heinemann. 1906. 20s. net.

The large-paper edition in one volume of "Madame Récamier" which was published a few years ago is out of print, and the book now has been brought out in two volumes at a smaller price. It is translated from the French of Herriot by Alys Holland, and well illustrated with fifteen portraits in photogravure. Herriot boldly quotes at the outset Sainte-Beuve's condemnation of what is pompously styled biography—"an ugly word, fit for men only, and which savours of study and research". Women, declared Sainte-Beuve, must inevitably lose something of their charm in the course of a continuous description. He doubted whether the life of any woman could really bear relation. But what he says is probably equally true applied to either sex. The truest thing ever said of biography was Tennyson's—that no one can write even his single day, and no one on earth can write it for him. However, as biographies go, we need little better than "Madame Récamier": it is a real study of life and character, no dull recital of fact and date.

**"Heidelberg: its Princes and its Palaces."** By Elizabeth Godfrey. London: Grant Richards. 1906. 12s. 6d. net.

We wonder who was the "rather learned man" who, according to Miss Godfrey, once said "I did not know the Palatinate had a history". She naturally hopes that this substantial volume may prevent some readers from shall we say showing themselves equally learned? It is perhaps possible to be "rather learned" and yet never to have heard of the Thirty Years' War, but if there be any so benighted as to know nothing of Old Heidelberg, its University and its Castle then they cannot do better than spend a day or two in reading the romantic story which Miss Godfrey has compiled with much industry, insight and devotion. The Palatinate was "the very kernel of Charlemagne's great empire" and "the battleground of the protracted struggle between Church and State long before the Reformation". The Heidelberg Catechism had ultimate issue in the Thirty Years' War, and the capital of the Palatinate lives to-day both as the seat of a world-renowned University and a precious memorial of historic conflict. Politically extinct, intellectually Heidelberg is vigorous with the youngest. The nineteenth century, as Miss Godfrey says, brought it three great gifts, the restoration of the University, the return of the Biblioteca Palatina from its long sojourn in the Vatican and Count Charles de Graimberg who saved the Castle from utter demolition.

**"Memoirs of the Count de Castric."** London: Lane. 1906. 16s. net.

To Simon's question "if your friends won in La Vendée what would you do to us?", the Dauphin is said to have replied "I should forgive you", an answer which even touched the heart of the brutal tempter. If La Vendée had produced many men as heroic and as gifted in adventure as Count de Castric its war might almost have succeeded in the end. These Memoirs are now published for the first time in English. An English translation was lately found in this country where it had lain neglected for a long while, and it forms a fresh and very interesting footnote to the history of the French Revolution. La Vendée itself, it is true, is only an incident—and not one of prime importance—in the Revolution, and nothing in the Memoirs throws startling light on the war there; but this story of suffering and hairbreadth escape shows the nature of the struggle in a way that historians as well as students will welcome.

(Continued on page 524.)

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"Mixed Maxims: or the Proverbs of the Professor." London: Alston Rivers. 1906. 2s. 6d. net.

The professor gives out old saws to the pupil, not a reading man, who takes them down in notes and drawings. We have often uttered solemn warnings against "the vice of taking notes". This skit is a very amusing illustration of our point—"Consider always", says the professor, "the feelings of others: and note that as the frog said to the urchins that stoned him 'what is sport to you is death to me', which the pupil, under a sketch of two men talking over their wine after dinner, renders "Its sport to you but death to me". Again "Take care of the pence and the pounds will take care of themselves". Pupil's note: a hunting sketch: "Take care of the fence, and the hounds will take care of themselves". A very good piece of frivollity. "Punch" should discover the "Maxim-mixer".

In his "Descriptive Catalogue of Derbyshire Charters" (Bemrose, 42s. net) Mr. J. H. Jeays of the British Museum has compiled a volume of interest and value to readers and serious students of county history. He has drawn his material from the great Derbyshire Library and collection of MSS. possessed by Sir H. Bemrose. To give an idea of the thoroughness of the work—drudgery, some would call it, but not we think the editor—we may mention that the indices alone fill closely over a hundred large pages. There are in all 2,787 charters referred to, nearly all of which have been examined by the editor. The earliest charter is one to Calk Abbey to which the date circ. 1129-1139 has been assigned.

#### FRENCH REVIEWS OF ARCHÆOLOGY AND ART.

"Journal des Savants." Septembre. Paris: Hachette. 3 fr.

M. R. Darest's "Lamoignon et la réforme judiciaire en 1788" is an excellent contribution to the history of one of the more important events in the prologue of the great French Revolution. M. G. Perrot concludes his study on "L'art gréco-bouddhique". In "Le Mystère de la Passion en France" M. A. Jeanroy studies the origins of the Passion-plays, à propos of an interesting but rather confused book by M. Emile Roy on the same subject. M. Jeanroy shows that the first Passion-plays written in French date probably as far back as the middle of the last third of the XIIth century. The vital necessity of studying ancient philosophy in the light of its historical development appears once more from M. J. Thomas' excellent article on "La philosophie ancienne".

"L'Art et les Artistes." Septembre. Paris: 173 Boulevard St. Germain. 1.50 fr.

One of the most interesting figures among the living members of the Rothschild family is that of Baron Henri de Rothschild: a physician by avocation, he devotes part of his energies and of his great wealth to the fine hospital which he has created and endowed, uses his leisure hours in writing delightful comedies, is one of the prominent patrons of automobilism, and last but not least is an art collector of exquisite taste and knowledge. His picture-gallery forms the object of a capital article by M. Charles Morice, with illustrations of eighteen of the best works, most of them gems. In "Watteau peintre militaire" M. Charles Séailles shows us the greatest of all French painters under a new and interesting aspect. "Cracovie et ses trésors d'art", by M. Casimir de Danilowicz, is an artist's glance at a town very little known by travellers. M. Jules Claretie has a few excellent words to say on J. L. Hannon, a painter of last century, who deserves not to be entirely forgotten. The extra plate, reproducing in colours a picture by M. Annan Lean, "La femme Anglaise", is charming.

"Gazette des Beaux-Arts." Septembre. Paris: 8, Rue Favart. 7.50 fr.

The genesis of a great work of art is always interesting to follow, the more so when, as in the case of Ingres' celebrated "Bain Turc", its origins can be traced to the very early years of the painter, the definite picture not having been completed till the artist was eighty-two; M. Jules Mommeja's article is of the greatest interest and importance and is copiously illustrated by a series of studies for the later composition, with a fine reproduction of the finished picture. M. Prosper Dorber gives us a good monograph of the French painter Joseph Ducreux (1735-1802), M. E. Bertaux contributes an excellent article on "Un triptyque flamand du XI<sup>e</sup> siècle à Valence"—entirely free, thank heaven, from the French Primitive craze—and M. Frédéric Regamey concludes his very interesting "Un coin de la vieille Alsace". "Le Musée de la Société Historique de New York", by MM. Lewis Einstein and François Monod, and "L'Exposition générale d'art Provençal à Marseille" are also continuations.

"La Revue de l'Art Ancien et Moderne." Septembre. Paris: 28 Rue du Mont-Thabor. 7.50 fr.

M. A. Kleinclaesz contributes an interesting first article on "Les Peintres des ducs de Bourgogne", from Philip the Bold to Philip the Good, and M. Henry Clouzot an equally good study

of "Les Peintres du Château d'Oiron". "Le Tri-centenaire de Rembrandt: les expositions de Leyde et d'Amsterdam" affords M. Paul Alfassa the opportunity of giving us some general views on the state of painting in Holland at the time of its greatest artist. M. A. Venturi concludes his masterly study of "Les Triomphes de Pétrarque dans l'art représentatif". "Notes sur quelques œuvres de Holbein en Angleterre", by M. André Machiels, will be of special interest to English readers.

"Art et Décoration." Septembre. Paris: Librairie Centrale des Beaux-Arts. 2 fr.

M. Henri Marcel does full justice to an admirable sculptor, Gustave Michel, who has found the rare secret of combining the full strength of naturalistic sculpture with the mystic charm of the Italian works of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. "L'Exposition de Soieries au Musée Galliera" is reviewed by M. E. Crasset, and M. Faxile Doat contributes a most interesting article on the history and technique of "Les Céramiques de Grand-Feu: la Porcelaine dure et le Grès-Céramique". The extra plate "Tapis de soie" is far from being so good as usual.

"Les Arts." Septembre. Paris: 24 Boulevard des Capucines. 2 fr.

M. G. Pottier's contribution on "La Collection de M. Albert Maignan" makes this number rank first among the other Art Reviews for September. The articles by the eminent member of the Institute are always a delight to everybody, as he has the supreme secret of imparting life and soul to everything he touches, and of making it interesting to the uninitiated as well as to the initiated; his versatile knowledge is not of the dry kind, but is combined with an exquisite sense of the beautiful, and the enthusiasm he feels for the works of art he describes, being sincere, is easily communicated to the reader. Reviewing the treasures of Egyptian and Greek art in the possession of the great painter Albert Maignan, he gives us a short but complete compendium of ancient art, expressed in that beautiful and lively style which is also quite his own. We are glad to see that the article will be continued. Of great interest also is M. Alexandre Cohen's "Les Temples Hindous de Java". These gigantic sculptured buildings, dating from the end of the VIII<sup>th</sup> or the beginning of the IX<sup>th</sup> century, have only lately been brought to light; they rank among the most beautiful extant specimens of Buddhist art, and are quite equal to the similar monuments found in India; the reproductions here given for the first time are extremely fine. The number opens with a capital article by M. Frédéric Masson: "Au Musée de Versailles".

For this Week's Books see page 526.

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